




## 'Thank heavens you're still alive'

*This Wednesday photo shows the reunion of a young couple. The wife was rescued in Wenchuan County, Sichuan Province, epicenter of the worst quake in 30 years. The quake, which measured 7.8 on the Richter scale, killed 19,509, injured 102,103 and left thousands missing. The rescue headquarters of the State Council estimate more than 50,000 may be dead in Sichuan alone. Rescue efforts continue to unearth more people, and the army continues to parachute more workers and supplies into the area, severed from the outside world by ruined roads and rockfall. Many people have walked to the epicenter to search for their loved ones.*

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Thousands remain buried in Sichuan Province, waiting for rescue to arrive. Xinhua Photos

IC Photos

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Prepare to  
swig your  
subway liquids

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Father's  
sentence ends  
years of rape

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Hijacked  
cam horns in  
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Noisy parties  
bane of  
local homes



# City's average revenue ranks third in nation

By Li Fenghua

According to news issued Wednesday by the National Bureau of Statistics, the average revenue of Beijing's urban inhabitants in the first season was 7,094 yuan, just below that of Shanghai and Zhejiang Province.

The National Bureau of Statistics collected data on about 64,000 families from 32 regions nationwide. According to the investigation, the national aver-

age income of urban inhabitants is about 4,675 yuan. The average income of Shanghai urban inhabitants reached 8,413 yuan, holding first place at far above the national average income.

Beijing, which placed second in past years, was replaced by Zhengjiang in the first season this year. The average income of Zhengjiang inhabitants reached 8,015 yuan in the first season, almost 1,000 yuan more than in the capital, according

to statistics.

The last statistics, collected last September by the National Bureau of Statistics, showed that in the third season of last year, the average income of Beijing urban inhabitants was 18,566 yuan, closely followed by Shanghai and 1,000 yuan more than Zhejiang's, which placed third.

Experts said Zhejiang displaced Beijing because of a difference in economic growth

speed between the two places. The total output value of Zhengjiang increased 11.8 percent over last year, compared to Beijing's 11.3 percent.

"In addition, there are more urban inhabitants in Beijing who invest in the stock and mutual fund markets in Beijing than in Zhengjiang. The low profile of the stock market in the first season has a profound effect on Beijing's urban inhabitants," experts said.

## Subway passengers subject to security checks

By Bai Jingnan

All Beijing subway stations will begin inspecting passengers' beverages and liquid items starting May 9. Checks will be handled at each ticket gate.

Passengers carrying liquids must drink some to prove it is not flammable, explosive or hazardous before being released to the boarding dock. The checks will apply to all liquids, whether the passenger is carrying it in a bag or pocket.

The subway stations are part of the city's security zone, and special staff will be assigned to perform the checks.

Many passengers said they support the inspection, but worry it may slow down subway boarding during the stations' peak hours. A subway company spokesman said that police officers will be deployed to assist with checks during peak hours.

The Dongzhimen and Ciqikou subway stations already carry out personal security checks of passengers. Police said that all subway stations will be required to implement checks in the near future. Passengers found to be carrying flammable, explosive or dangerous goods onto the subway will be punished, the police said.

Starting May 12, Terminal 1 of Beijing Capital International Airport will halt its service. Flights with South Airlines, Xiamen Airlines and Chongqing Airlines will operate in Terminal 2 from May 20.

## Donors open hearts, veins to support quake victims



By Zhang Dongya

People have turned out in droves to donate blood since Monday's earthquake. All donation spots were jammed as of yesterday, and the city's blood bank was saturated with all types of blood.

People lined up in front of the Beijing Books Building to donate. The queues stretched for 50 meters. City authorities had to tell waiting crowds to

leave their phone numbers and wait until more blood is needed. On Tuesday alone, as many as 3,300 people in Beijing donated blood for the quake victims.

Since there is a delay while blood is inspected and the quake region blood banks are currently saturated, the Beijing Municipal Health Bureau suggested donors make an appointment to donate to fill further demand. The

ministry sent about 1,470 liters of blood to Sichuan Province Wednesday.

The Beijing Red Cross Blood Center recently has required registration for appointments. Individuals or groups can make an appointment and register via Internet, telephone or at blood-mobiles around town.

Interested donors can dial 6203 1992 or visit the Web site at [brcbc.org](http://brcbc.org) to register.

## World pitches in to relieve Sichuan

By Han Manman

The country's biggest disaster in years has been the focus of the world this week. Many countries and international organizations showed their solace and support promptly after the Wenchuan quake, and expressed their willingness to assist the government and its people.

The first round of international aid to reach Sichuan Province came from Russia, and arrived in Chengdu, the province's capital, on Wednesday by plane. More than 24 tons of relief materials, including tents and quilts, will be air dropped to worst-hit areas as soon as possible, an official with the Sichuan

provincial government said.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) pledged US \$1 million for relief. The donation will be channeled through the Beijing Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games, the IOC said in a statement.

The White House said it will provide US \$500,000 in emergency relief and could send more aid if needed while British aid agency Oxfam said it has allocated US \$1.5 million towards dealing with the aftermath.

In Geneva, the Red Cross said it allocated 150,000 Euros, while the UN Office for the Coordination of

Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said it was ready to send aid if China requested.

Public donations in both cash and goods to the quake-hit areas reached 603 million yuan as of Wednesday afternoon, a Ministry of Civil Affairs spokesman said.

The Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) previously called for donations. Urgently needed items include tents, cotton-padded quilts, food and water, but these are difficult to move to the disaster region due to transportation problems. An official with the RCSC said the currently preferred aid is cash.

## Nursing now a regulated field

By Sun Jina

Monday, on International Nurses Day, the government implemented its first nursing regulations.

Under the new regulations, if a nurse betrays her patient's privacy, he or she will be barred from working for a period of six months to one year. In the most serious cases, the practitioner's Nursing Certificate may be rescinded.

Mao Xiaowei, vice president of the Ministry of Health, said the country had about 1.5 million nurses as of last year: 34 percent of all health professionals and 120,000 more nurses than it had in 2006.

Last year saw the largest boom in nursing graduates in recent history. The educational background of nurses is improving as well, and many graduates and post-graduates are entering the field.

The demand for nurses is increasing faster than the rate of nursing graduates.

In early 1978, the ratio of nurses to sick beds was 2 to 5. Today, hospitals are still unable to match even that rate. Statistics show the country is short of 1 million nurses. The disparity between male and female nurses is another problem — many patients will not accept male nurses and view them as more impatient than women nurses.

Beijing Today's reporter interviewed several patients in the Beijing Second Artillery Hospital who praised its male nurses. "When the male nurses give you a shot, it does not hurt at all. They are all very careful," a patient said.

## Brief news

### Food prices down for fifth straight week

The price of food in major cities has fallen for five weeks in a row, a Ministry of Commerce spokesman said Monday. Of 58 food items monitored last week in 36 principal cities, 31 have seen their prices fall. Vegetables were an average of 10.4 percent cheaper, bolstered by an influx of local produce. The price of pork, one of the biggest factors in inflation, dropped 1.8 percent.

### "Green Olympic" promise comes true

Seven years ago, when Beijing applied to host the 2008 Olympic Games, the city promised to host a Green Olympics.

The capital's greenery rate has reached 43 percent. The greenbelt per capita has risen to 48 square kilometers. New forests planted during the last seven years have contributed to absorbing an estimated 16.5 million tons of carbon dioxide, according to a report recently released by the Beijing Garden Virescence Bureau.

### Police detain 3 Olympic ticket scalpers

Beijing police detained three men on suspicion of scalping Olympics tickets, police said Wednesday. It was the first case of Olympic ticket scalping in Beijing, a spokesman for the public security bureau of Haidian District said.

(By Sun Jina, Han Manman)

### How you can help

The Ministry of Civil Affairs has authorized the Red Cross Society of China and China Charity Federation to receive donations for quake-hit areas.

Red Cross Society of China donation hotline: (8610) 65139999, 64027620

China Charity Federation hotline: (8610) 66083260, 66083264, 66083194

Account number for yuan donation: 0200001009014413252, at Beijing branch of Industrial and Commercial Bank of China

Account number for foreign currency donation: 7112111482600000209 at Jiuxianqiao branch of CITIC Bank.



# Inner Mongolia to survey, repair the old Great Wall

By Jackie Zhang

An extensive survey to protect and repair sections of the old Great Wall was launched by Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. The region has the longest section of Great Wall remains, built over a series of dynasties. The project's estimated financial investment exceeds 100 million yuan.

The Great Wall in Inner Mongolia stretches 20,000 kilometers,

or half of all the great wall within China proper. The sections were constructed over a multitude of dynasties from the Warring States Period (475-221 BC) to Ming Dynasty (1368-1662). The sections built in Qin (221-206 BC), Han (202-220) and Ming Dynasties are listed as protected national relics, but extreme disrepair and man-made damage over the last 2,000 years has left much of the wall in

urgent need of work.

"A survey of the Ming dynasty Great Wall is in full swing, and repair has started on the Qin Dynasty sections," Ming Rei, deputy director of the regional cultural department, said. "So far, we have invested 5 million yuan in the project. We encourage citizens to establish teams to patrol and protect the Great Wall remains, and not just to rely on the government."

This survey and repair project focuses on protecting and reinforcing the original architecture. "It will take two to three years," Ming said. "The major work this year is to finish repairs on the Qin-era sections of the Great Wall and investigate what needs to be done on the Han Dynasty sections," he said.

The Great Wall was historically China's first line of defense. Different sections wander thou-

sands of miles across north China through Gansu, Ningxia, Shaanxi, Shanxi, Hebei and Liaoning provinces and the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

Earliest construction began during the Warring States Period, when sections were built in scattered strategic areas.

The most visually striking part is the well-preserved 6,350-kilometer section from the Ming Dynasty.

## Father forges notes to trick ATMs

By Zhang Dongya

Local police caught three men, a father and two sons, accused of depositing 3,400 yuan worth of counterfeit currency notes into an ATM and withdrawing genuine money in Lanzhou, Gansu Province, last month. The case is still being heard.

A staff member at one branch bank of Lanzhou found 35 counterfeit notes mixed in with genuine notes at an ATM, a total of 33 100-yuan notes and two 50-yuan ones.

The bank called the police and two of the men were apprehended a week later when they again deposited counterfeit notes.

The two brothers confessed that their 50-year-old father had engineered the fake notes.

The counterfeit notes in this case were found to be mixtures of three quarters of genuine notes and a quarter of fake notes, a spokesman for the bank said. "Common counterfeit notes that humans can recognize cannot be deposited into an ATM, but the fake notes in this case were designed specifically to fool the machine," a staff member at the People's Bank of China, Lanzhou Central Sub-branch, said. "The cash boxes for deposit and withdrawal are separate, so the counterfeit notes were not put back into circulation."

## 300 traditional tricycles head to Houhai



Photo by Artist Yuan

By Annie Wei

Houhai received 300 new tricycles Monday when Fanghuating Hutong Tour opened its first franchise in the area.

Local authorities hope the traditional uniforms worn by the company's formal tricycle peddlers will prevent tourists from being cheated by unlicensed chauffeurs.

Liu Jun, deputy director of

Xicheng tourism bureau, said each tricycle costs 3,000 yuan and is adorned with hand-made decoration designed by local folk artists and nearby residents.

The franchise has not yet fixed its prices, Liu said. According to one of the franchised hutong tour company, tricycle tours cost 35 yuan per hour or 480 yuan for eight hours, including hours spent waiting while customers

dine, visit shops or go clubbing.

The authority said they wanted to buy over the other small and random tricycles which could not get into the franchising system.

A Ms Shi, from the Fanghuating Hutong Tour, said franchising will aid in market regulation and help prevent incidents of tricycle chauffeurs harassing their passengers.

## Jilin woman free of father after years of rape, abuse

By Li Fenghua

One October evening in 2000, Yuanyuan (pseudonym) was about to go to sleep when her father burst into her room. She was 13 years old and did not understand what he wanted, but she found it humiliating.

Yuanyuan resisted her father when he came into her bed. He threatened to kill her and her mother if she did not submit. She was raped regularly for the next seven years, a Jilin Province newspaper reported.

Her father, surnamed Niu, from Jiutai was sentenced to 14 years in prison Monday by Jiutai Renmin Law Court Monday after police learned of the years of abuse when Yuanyuan escaped to a hospital – pregnant with her father's child.

The Jilin newspaper reported that Niu once raped Yuanyuan, his hand covering her mouth, while his wife and son watched TV in the next room.

Yuanyuan said her father was wicked, but her mother said she never imagined Niu could do that to his own daughter.

In 2006, Yuanyuan turned 19 and left for Changchun to escape her father. Niu found her and dragged her back home within a month. He forbade Yuanyuan to go outside or talk to strangers. He took her with him wherever he went and barred her boyfriends.

From 2006 to May of 2007, Yuanyuan was raped constantly. She said she was too scared to report it to the police, possibly because of psychological damage after the years of abuse.

Last May, Yuanyuan discovered she was pregnant. She contemplated suicide, but decided to report it to local police after two months of struggling with the decision.

The police arrested Niu the next day.

According to police, 46-year-old Niu was previously sentenced to seven years in prison for raping girls in 1988 or earlier. After his release, he turned his desire on his own daughter.

Niu denied that he raped his own daughter at the beginning of interrogation. However, a hospital examined Yuanyuan and confirmed her claims.

## Parents demand harsher punishment for doctor who molested girls

By Jackie Zhang

Gu Chengsuo, the pediatrician who molested two of his girl patients, was convicted and sentenced to two years and six months imprisonment last Tuesday by the Beijing Xicheng People's Procuratorate. This Monday, the parents of the girls submitted a counter appeal to the court to request a more severe sentence.

Gu, 42, was an associate professor in pediatrics in Xingtai No 3 Hospital, Hebei Province. He was selected last September for advanced training in Beijing Children's Hospital as a reward for his hard work.

One of the girls, Lili (pseudonym), 12, was hospitalized for

pneumonia in early January. One night during sleep, she awoke to an uncomfortable feeling and found Gu was molesting her. Lili said Gu returned to molest her three times that night. During their investigation, police said another five-year-old girl reported that Gu had done the same thing to her.

In Beijing Children's Hospital, the rooms remain unlocked at night so doctors can examine changes in patients' conditions. Parents are not allowed to accompany their children during night hours. The rooms are not equipped with security cameras. Gu was on night shift duty at the time he molested the girls.

Xicheng District People's

Court committed Gu's prison sentence to two and a half years because he admitted to the crime with "a good attitude" and in consideration of his prior work record.

But Lin Wei, the lawyer representing Gu's victims, is strongly opposed to the weak sentence.

"A good work record is no reason to lighten Gu's sentence. According to Criminal Law, people who molest or rape a woman through violence, threat or other means must be sentenced, at most to five years in prison. The punishment when the victim is a girl should be more severe. In this case, both girls were seriously ill."

Lin said one of the girls,

Lingling, who was only five at that time, now frequently wets her bed. She used to be very active, but now constantly fears strange men and refuses to turn out the light when she goes to sleep at night.

The lawyer said Lili's situation is even more serious. The girl was a good student, but her grades plummeted after the incident and she refused all help from male tutors. "The girl exhibits symptoms of slight autism. She will not go to public places and has suicidal tendencies."

The Xicheng District People's Procuratorate is expected to rule on the counter appeal within this week.



# Biggest quake in more than 30 years pounds China

By Han Manman

China's deadliest earthquake in three decades, measuring 7.8 on the Richter scale, hit Sichuan Province and was felt in many parts of the country on Monday afternoon. As of press time, the quake killed 19,509 and buried 12,300. The rescue headquarters of the State Council estimates 50,000 may be dead in Sichuan alone.

As help began to arrive in some of the hardest-to-reach areas, some victims trapped for more than three days under collapsed buildings were still being pulled out alive.



A girl named He Cuiqing was rescued on Wednesday in Qingchuan County, Sichuan Province, after being buried for 50 years.

Xinhua Photos

## Witnessing classmate's death

Laid up in the hospital, Monday's disaster still weighs heavy on nine-year-old Jiang Kunhong's mind – he may never forget.

Jiang is a third grade pupil in Xinjian elementary school in Dujiangyan city, one of the severely affected areas in Sichuan. At 2:28 pm Monday, when Jiang was in class with his 40 classmates, a sudden shake happened and in less than five seconds, the whole building collapsed. Around 500 pupils including Jiang, were buried under the debris.

Luckily he was found two hours later by the rescuers. His head and knee were injured but otherwise his condition was not severe. As there was a serious shortage of beds, Jiang slept on the ground for the whole night. He escaped death, but thousands of other school children, including some of his classmates, were not so lucky. Little Jiang said he witnessed three of his classmates dying on the spot.

At Sichuan's Muyu Middle School in Qingchuan County, 270 students were confirmed dead on Wednesday after a three-story building collapsed during the quake.

At the main building of Beichuan Middle School in Mianyang city, at least 1,000 students and teachers were dead or missing.

Across Sichuan Province, where the quake struck, and in neighboring regions, tens of thousands of people have been killed or buried in the rubble of collapsed buildings.

## Soldiers on the scene

The hardest-hit and nearest county to the epicenter of Sichuan's earthquake, Wenchuan was reached Wednesday as a group of rescuers slogged into the first town, Yingxiu. However, the situation was "worse than expected."

"The losses have been severe," Wang Yi, who headed an armed police unit sent into the epicenter zone, was quoted as saying. "Some areas basically have no houses left. They have all collapsed to the ground."

At least 7,700 people have died in Yingxiu town in Wenchuan, with only 2,300 survivors, 1,000 of whom were badly injured, local government official He Biao was quoted



The victims in Yingxiu could only be air lifted out of town as all roads were destroyed by the quake.

**"Not one minute can be wasted. One minute, one second could mean a child's life,"**

**-Premier Wen Jiabao, 66, speaking about the severe earthquake that hit Beichuan County.**

as saying by Xinhua. The toll was expected to rise further once rescuers reached other towns in the county that remained severed from Chengdu, the provincial capital, more than three days after the quake. The survivors there "desperately needed medical help, food and water," Xinhua said.

By 8 pm Wednesday, the People's Liberation Army had delivered 33.3 tons of aid and air lifted 156 injured people from Wenchuan County and other quake-stricken towns.

Because roads connecting Dujiangyan and Wenchuan, the epicenter of the quake, have been seriously damaged, the army will parachute more troops and supplies to quake-hit areas over the next two days. Hospitals have been leveled, forcing doctors and nurses to treat survivors in the street.

The Wenchuan county seat is surrounded by hills 500 to 1,000 meters high. "When the quake struck, rocks rolled down the mountains and buried houses. People had no time to escape, and there was nowhere to run," a survivor surnamed Zhang said.

## Rescue relief in high gear

Immediately after the disaster, Premier Wen Jiabao flew to the disaster area, visited survivors and repeated his call for faster efforts to reach those trapped under buildings or buried in the rubble.

Wen pushed rescue efforts. "Not one minute can be wasted. One minute, one second could mean a child's life," Wen said as he visited a collapsed high school in Dujiangyan where 900 students were feared dead and rescuers were still trying to find survivors.

Within 24 hours of the deadly quake, some 20,000 troops converged on the disaster area to help dig out the dead and injured, and military planes and trucks ferried in another 30,000 reinforcements.

The China Air Force assembled its biggest and strongest non-campaign airlift in history with over 130 flights transporting 8,600 rescuers within 48 hours.

Storms that had prevented flights to some of the worst-hit areas finally cleared and military helicopters immediately dropped food, drinking water and medicine to survivors who remained stranded Wednesday.

Trains were on their way to Sichuan carrying quilts, drinking water, tents and more military personnel.

So far, the government has dispatched a total of 100,000 military troops and police to help with the rescue effort.

Troops continue to locate survivors among the people buried in the rubble.

## Missing foreigners found safe

Thirty-three missing tourists from Britain, the US and France arrived in Chengdu from quake-hit panda town Wolong via military helicopter at 11:05 am yesterday, Xinhua reported.

The tourists, who had been stranded in Wolong since the disaster hit on Monday, were in good health.

Zhang Wenxiang, an official of the Wolong Giant Panda Administration, reported by satellite phone Wednesday afternoon that tourists and journalists stranded in Wolong, including more than 50 foreigners, were safe.

No deaths or injuries have been reported among the tourists and journalists, who had been placed in a local hotel after the quake, Zhang said.

The earthquake struck at 2:28 pm Monday in Wenchuan county, 95 kilometers west-north-west of Chengdu, and could be felt in cities hundreds of kilometers away, including Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong and Bangkok.

It was the deadliest earthquake since 1976 when an estimated 242,000 people died in the northern city of Tangshan near Beijing.



# Quick response praised worldwide

By Han Manman

The government's high-gear response has reassured Chinese people and gained praise from around the world for showing it is capable of handling disasters.

The country's leaders have reacted to the worst earthquake in more than 30 years with exemplary speed and concern, mobilizing a massive national effort to rescue survivors and prevent an outbreak of disease, *The Times Daily* said in a commentary Wednesday.

The *International Herald Tribune* said the government in Beijing has made a great rescue effort, dispatching thousands of troops from across the country and promptly sending Prime Minister Wen Jiabao to the disaster zone.

"With a hard hat on his head and a bullhorn in his hand, Wen ducked into the wreckage of a hospital where scores of people were buried and shouted, 'Hang on a bit longer. The troops are rescuing you.' Throughout the day, the images of Wen directing disaster relief officials and comforting the injured dominated the airwaves," the newspaper said.

The Associated Press said Chinese media has made an aggressive effort to cover what is the worst earthquake in decades.

The *Washington Post* said the government's response was matched with an unusually open handling of the disaster for a country often criticized as maintaining secrecy in times of crisis.

It said Chinese media has issued round-the-clock reports showing the full horror of the worst natural disaster in a generation, in which thousands of people remain missing, most trapped in the rubble of collapsed buildings.



Prime Minister Wen Jiabao consoles quake victims.

Xinhua Photo

## Olympic torch relay simplified

By Han Manman

Attendees and torchbearers of the torch relay in each of the next 98 legs across China will dedicate one minute of silence to the lives lost in the massive earthquake in the southwest.

The Olympic torch relay is also being simplified and scaled down after the earthquake that rocked Sichuan Province. It began a new leg Wednesday in Ruijin, Jiangxi Province, but without the flash of past relay openings — a gesture of respect to the thousands who died.

The torch is due to arrive June 13 in Chongqing and will enter neighboring Sichuan two days later.

"Safety comes first in the torch relay," organizing committee spokesman Sun Weide said. The organizers will station

some donation boxes along the torch route so supporters can donate to aid quake victims.

Sun said the ceremony would be reduced to having fewer speeches and less pomp. "How long this continues will depend on the disaster relief work," Sun said.

"Right now we will continue to monitor the disaster situation," Li Zhanjun, director of the Beijing Olympic Media Center, said. "If there are no further developments, then it will not affect the torch relay."

Organizers say the Olympics will be safe for the more than 500,000 foreign visitors expected.

"What I want to say to foreign visitors is that the Olympic Games is safe, Beijing is safe and China is safe," Zhang Jian, director of the organizing committee's project

management office, said.

The earthquake had little effect on Olympic venues, including the National Stadium and the National Aquatics Center, Xinhua news agency reported.

The earthquake caused a magnitude of 3.9 tremor in Beijing Monday, but the National Stadium was built to withstand it, Tan Xiaochun, who is in charge of Olympic-venue construction, said.

"In each step from design to construction we adhered to strict quality standards, so the earthquake didn't damage the stadium," Tan said.

All Olympic venue designs passed anti-earthquake tests before construction. The aquatics center can withstand a magnitude of 8 earthquake on the Richter scale, one of the designers said.

## Admin says quake came without warning

By Zhang Dongya

The China Earthquake Administration has come under fire for failing to predict the disastrous Sichuan Province earthquake despite what its opponents say there were several warning signs.

Researchers and officials at a State Council Information Office press conference on Tuesday afternoon said the alleged signs were not clearly connected to a quake, and that accurate quake prediction remains a world issue.

Three factors make earthquake forecast-

ing one of the most difficult world problems to solve, Zhang Xiaodong, vice director of the China Earthquake Networks Center, said at the conference.

It is hard to predict precisely what is going on underground simply by observing the surface. Second, the formation of an earthquake is a very complicated process. Geographical conditions, historical time factors and magnitude all influence the occurrence of earthquakes.

The low statistical probability of an earthquake makes it even harder to fore-

cast, even though quakes occur every year around the world and some are very strong. Within a single area, the interval between two earthquakes is so far apart chronologically that it is almost impossible to obtain an accurate statistics sample, which is of vital significance to earthquake prediction.

The related departments did not conceal a quake forecast, and data shows there will not be a strong earthquake in Beijing before the Olympic Games, Zhang Hongwei, spokesman for China Earthquake Administration, said.

## Aftershock rumor was a ploy for blog hits

By Zhang Dongya

Four rumor mongers were apprehended Tuesday by police for spreading rumors that a strong aftershock would hit Beijing Monday night.

The four from Liaoning, Hebei, Shanxi and Henan provinces circulated a story that an aftershock measuring between 2 and 6 on the Richter scale would hit Beijing between 10 pm and midnight on Monday. The rumor was started to drive traffic to their blogs.

There was no evidence to suggest an aftershock from Monday's quake would occur in Beijing that day, a China Earthquake Administration spokesman said.

An earthquake measuring 3.9 jolted Tongzhou District Monday. There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage.

## Sichuan tours canceled after quake

By Zhang Dongya

All the tourism lines to or through Sichuan Province were canceled after the earthquake on May 12, according to a notice issued by National Tourism Administration. Tourism agencies in Beijing halted all travel services to Sichuan.

Tourists who paid for a Sichuan tour prior to May 12 will be reimbursed in full. Chengdu Shuangliu Airport reopened on May 13 after a provisional closure at quake time.

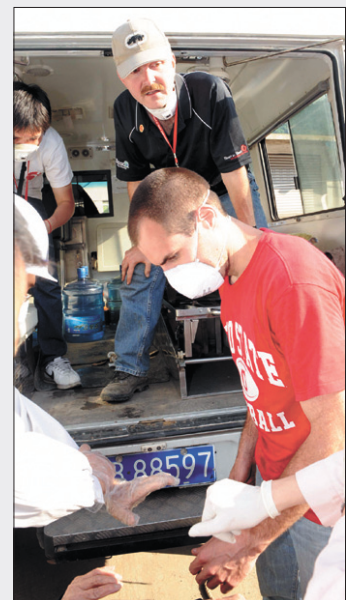
A head count of all tourists who went to Sichuan on May 12 is not complete. The tourism bureau of Jiuzhaigou said the 12,000 tourists were safe from the quake in Jiuzhaigou Valley.

## Quakes carry 12-second window

By Zhang Dongya

Normally, there are 12 seconds between when an earthquake occurs and when a house collapses, according to an article on the Web site of Association for Disaster Prevention (CADP). The 12 seconds are a time to stay calm and look for a solid structure under which to hide.

When a strong earthquake occurs, do not jump from the building or try to escape out a window. Drop under a sturdy table or desk for protection and cover your head with your arms. This will minimize the chance of injury in the event of a structural collapse.



Foreign volunteers came to help aid disaster victims. Xinhua Photo



# Beijing to build global financial hub status

By Huang Daohen

The capital is planning to make itself a financial center with an international influence, according to a proposal unveiled by the city government earlier this month, which has captured the attention of both financial experts and media.

If approved, the city will focus on two areas in its transformation into a financial hub: development of its financial street, where the People's Bank of China is located, and of its CBD area, home to the offices of many international firms.

The government is working on policies to attract overseas and domestic financial institutions to settle in Beijing.

"It's the first time Beijing has

tried to become a financial hub. It wants to be the financial decision-making, management and information center of the country," Huo Xuewen, director of Beijing Financial Service Center, told a recent press conference.

The city plans to build a national IPR trading market. It supports the establishment of a cotton trading market and an oil exchange, Huo said.

Huo noted that Beijing as a financial capital would benefit from easy access to government support. The industry's pollution free added value makes it an attractive development source for this Green Olympics year.

People disagree on with the idea that Beijing's transformation could influence other cities' finan-

cial development. Some doubt that such transformation will bring potential for competition with such main cities as Shanghai and Tianjin, all of which aim to become financial hubs too.

Huo said it would be a win-win situation if Beijing developed into a financial center and Beijing would not be a competitor against Shanghai. "It's impossible for Beijing's financial industry to boom when other financial businesses are in decline," he said.

However, Xia Yeliang, an economics professor from Beijing University, said a global financial center should emerge naturally from the market and not be a contrived creation of government policy.

Xia points out that mature

market economies long ago gave up planning the industry focus for their cities. The Beijing government's practice is tainted by a command economy.

Xia suggested that the municipal government return to its proper role as an infrastructure-builder and service-provider to streamline the environment for all potential businesses, no matter whether it is finance, culture or art.

"The market will provide the answers in due time," Xia said.

The finance industry accounted for more than 12 percent of Beijing's economy last year. Statistics show that 48 financial institutions officially opened or moved to the city during that time.

## Central bank targets illegal cash inflows

By Huang Daohen

The government will tackle illegal inflows of capital, the country's central bank said, signaling a pause in the yuan's gains that may frustrate overseas investors.

"Capital inflows into China may increase in the short term, which will increase the difficulty of implementing a tight monetary policy," the People's Bank of China said in its quarterly monetary policy report, posted on its Web site Wednesday.

Policy makers have tightened interest rates this year and slowed yuan gains since the start of April, an attempt to avoid attracting overseas capital that could fuel inflation.

Consumer prices climbed 8.5 percent last month, a historical high in 12 years.

Meanwhile, PPI inflation climbed to 8.1 percent year-on-year in April from 8 percent in March, slightly below the market consensus.

## Eastern Airlines seeks capital for training

By Huang Daohen

Eastern Airlines, the most indebted of the big three airlines, aims to raise at least 15 billion yuan for its new planes and training to help it compete with Air China and Cathay Pacific Airways.

"If we can get more, it will be even better," the airlines' chairman Li Fenghua said.

Li plans to reach his target by reviving the sale of a stake to Singapore Airlines. The company's minority shareholders vetoed a tie-up with Singapore Airlines in January after Air China pledged to make a higher offer.

"There's no change in our plan to tie up with Singapore Airlines," Li said.

The two carriers are currently discussing commercial cooperation such as cross-selling tickets rather than an equity link, Chew Choon Seng, chief executive officer of Singapore Airlines, said.

## UUSee.com tests new online video

By Huang Daohen

The UUSee.com, a multimedia Web site, has recently launched an online test for its new edition, UUSee web TV 2008, the biggest portal web TV in china.

UUSee integrated this time live broadcast, broadcast on demand and short video. The company has also used P2P technology and accelerated the speed of video playing.

"The new edition will bring the consumers a totally new experience," Li Zhu, the company's founder, said.

# Chinese Olympic uniform unveiled



Nike unveiled Monday the 22 Chinese Sports Federations uniform collections for Chinese athletes at Tai Miao, the Ancestral Temple east of the Forbidden City.

Nike's apparel and footwear for Chinese athletes is inspired by the nation's heritage and designed for performance, utilizing lightweight technology.

Xinhua Photo

## Steel sector seen lifting ore prices

Planned expansions by major iron ore producers will not be enough to curb prices as China raises steel output and steel sector margins are big enough to pay more for raw materials, an industry conference heard.

Major mining groups have been touting big plans to boost iron ore production, raising concerns that the market could be overwhelmed with surpluses that might bring a collapse in prices.

But the combination of several forces is due to keep prices buoyant on the seaborne traded market, the Metal Bulletin Iron Ore Symposium in Monte Carlo heard this week.

We believe there will be another steep change upwards over the next three to five years in the seaborne trade for iron ore on the demand side, analyst Jim Lennon of Macquarie said.

(Agencies)

## Jumbo passenger plane project set for takeoff

By Huang Daohen

The nation's first jumbo passenger aircraft company was recently officially inaugurated in Shanghai, marking the milestone to develop the first made-in-China large passenger plane.

The company, with a registered capital of 19 billion yuan (about US \$2.7 billion), is responsible for developing, manufacturing and marketing the country's jumbo passenger jet.

Major stockholders include the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council, the Shanghai government, The China Aviation Industry Corporation, Baosteel and the Aluminum Corporation of China, Xinhua reported.

With the company being entirely state owned, it will be easy for the government to

manage the project, reducing the number of possible disputes that would arise during development, Zhang Qinwei, former Chairman of the Commission of Science and Technology for National Defense, said.

Referring to the new aerospace firm's challenge to Airbus and Boeing, the global giants of commercial aviation, Jin Zhuanglong, president of the company, said it would pose no threat to Airbus and Boeing for at least 20 years and that China would instead require the help of foreign technology.

"Even when China has the capacity to produce large jets, it would only be able to meet a fraction of the domestic demand. Boeing and Airbus will continue to claim a big chunk of the Chinese market," Jin said.

Airbus and Boeing, as well as other major global aviation parts suppliers, General Electric, Honeywell and Bombardier have expressed some support for the project, *China Daily* reported.

There is no timeline as to when the passenger planes will lift off, but it is expected to be a long process. Experts forecast that the country will require an additional 1,600 passenger airplanes by 2020.

Jumbo passenger planes are defined as those planes with a maximum take-off weight surpassing 100 tons, able to seat more than a 150 passengers and having the ability to travel more than 5,000 kilometers. The country researched passenger plane construction in the 1970s, but halted the work in the 1980s.







# A singer-songwriter offers a mixed bag to fans

By He Jianwei

As the lights went down, she came on stage alone for her encore and sang a Brazilian acapella lullaby to send her audience off into the night on May 11 at Yugong Yishan.

She is Keren Ann, a talented singer-songwriter based largely in Paris, New York City and Israel. She gave her performance in Beijing as part of her Asia tour after the release of her latest album *Keren Ann*.

"I like songs with melancholy. I like songs with beauty and deepness. The first thing about a song is that it has to be real, be lived; it has to be emotional, and melancholic. I don't mean sad.

Melancholy is sort of a comfort. Melancholy has a sort of beauty to it," she said.

She plays guitar, piano and clarinet, engineers and writes choir and musical arrangements. Keren Ann was born Keren Ann Zeidel in Israel and is descended from Russian Jews on her father's side and is Indo (Japanese and Dutch) on her mother's.

She lived in Israel and in the Netherlands until age 11, when her family moved to France. Four or five years ago, she and her husband relocated to New York City.

The varied moves influenced her music in many ways. She still remembered the rustle in the air when she was a child in Israel

mixed with something sweet in the air. She listened to Lenoard Cohen's songs a lot, which made her emotional and melancholic.

"Paris is a place I kind of called home for 20 years. My piano, guitars, vintage keyboards, microphones remain mostly there right now," she said.

Living in New York made her blend different styles of music together, including rock, jazz and folk. Also, she adopted different instruments, both acoustic and electronic.

Israel is not the place where she was born, but is the place where she chooses to retire. "My husband and I have this place in the country up north where we go to escape. If

we do decide to live in Israel someday, it would probably be somewhere closer to the airport, so I can travel more," she said.

In 2000, she began her solo career with the album *La Biographie de Luka Philipsen*, produced by Lionel Gaillardin and Benjamin Biolay, who also co-produced its follow-up, *La Disparition*.

Her third album *Not Going Anywhere* was released worldwide in 2003, but her American breakthrough came with its follow-up, *Nolita* released in 2004. Recorded in Paris and New York, it is named for Nolita, her neighborhood in lower Manhattan and is sung half in French and half in English.



Keren Ann

Photo by Weed

## French ballet brings out the gypsy in Beijing



Opera National de Paris ballerinas up on their toes in *Paquita*, May 16 to 18.

Photo provided by Icare

By He Jianwei

Opera National de Paris, with a history of over 300 years, will perform one of its classic pieces *Paquita* at the National Center for the Performing Arts (NCPA) in Beijing from May 16 to 18, which is part of a ballet feast in the ongoing Olympic Performance Season at NCPA.

Different from the other classic ballets, *Paquita* is full of passionate and happy moves, which blends styles of Spanish folk dance.

"The bullfight dance by twelve macho men in the first scene will present a refreshingly different world to audiences who are used to the romantic and feminine side of ballet," Brigitte Lefevre, the director of Opera National de Paris, said at Tuesday's press conference.

It has been three years since Opera National de Paris gave a performance to Beijing's audience. "Since China's classical ballet school was founded in Beijing in the 1950s, the com-

munication of ballet between France and China been going on," Lefevre said.

Besides the 140 ballet dancers, Opera National de Paris has also selected 50 students from the middle school of the Beijing Dance Academy to join the performance.

"The performance will be another milestone in the history of our two countries' communication and friendship, as the 19th century's ballet will play on the modern stage at NCPA

designed by French architect Paul Andreu," she said.

*Paquita*, a ballet in two acts and three scenes was first played at the Paris Opera on April 1, 1846, and took place in Spain under the occupation of Napoleon's army. It tells the story of a young gypsy girl, *Paquita* who was rescued from a massacre by gypsies when she was a baby. She falls in love with a young French officer Lucien d' Hervilly. But she can't marry him because of

her lowly status. In the end she manages to save the life of Hervilly and learns of her noble birth. The two get married and enjoy a happy life.

Opera National de Paris is one of the oldest ballet troupes in the world and is considered the cradle of classical ballet. The basic principles and symbolic movements it designed for ballet, such as the white skirt, toe dance and air bounce are still widely used in ballet today.

## Spanish tenor sings for Mother Earth

By Gan Tian

After holding a solo concert at the National Center for the Performing Arts in January, Spanish tenor Jose Carreras visited the city again last Sunday, shooting a music video with Chinese soprano Wang Lida to support an environmental campaign.

The song, "Love the World", or "Da'ai Tianxia in Chinese", marked the beginning of the environmental protection project of the same name. Carreras and Wang went to Changping District for the shooting.

Carreras said he could feel

Beijing is experiencing big changes during these years. He mentioned that every city would experience similar changes if the Olympics had been held there. His hometown, Barcelona, was also an example. On his way to the recording studio, he passed the Olympic venues the Bird's Nest and the Water Cube. "They are really beautiful and I was very impressed," he said. He also mentioned he would watch the Beijing Olympic events as a regular sports fan.

Carreras said that artists and performers are responsible for spreading the idea of environmen-

tal protection and he was one of the leaders involved in these projects. In the music video, Carreras and Wang stand in a snowy forest created computer graphics, singing their song in both English and Chinese. The forest scene expressed their environmental ideas vividly to the audience.

The pair's union produced a combination of folk and international, classical and modern styles as well as new-age. Carreras praised Wang as an adorable and talented young artist. "I enjoyed working together with her," he

said. The artist stayed in town for a few days after the music video was shot, in order to experience different views of the city.

Born in Barcelona, Spain, the 57-year-old performer is one of the most prominent singers of his generation. He gained fame with the audience as one of The Three Tenors along with Placido Domingo and Luciano Pavarotti. The Love the World project will produce films, concerts and other events. Many other international performers will be invited to join the project in the following months.



Spanish tenor Jose Carreras and Chinese soprano Wang Lida's new music video is shot in a CG snowy forest. CFP Photo





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# Pedaling over Huangshan Mountain



Hongcun, a village near Huangshan offers riders poetic Chinese countryside.

Photo provided by Nordic Ways

By Huang Daohen

The best way to enjoy Huangshan Mountain in Anhui Province, other than being trapped on the ropeway as most visitors are, is by cycling through this remote and beautiful land on a mountain bike. This year's Huangshan MTB Festival, which took place during this past weekend, provided that opportunity.

As many as 500 mountain bikers from 20 countries showed up at the starting line last Saturday. The one-day adventure, cov-

ering 50 kilometers, crossed the scenic and desolate grass lands of Huangshan.

Li Yufu, who was specially invited by the organizing committee, won the men's 50-kilometer event, beating his nearest competitor, last year's winner Piers Touzel, from Australia by only 46 seconds. Li, however, had to hand over his prize money to Touzel since he was of professional status.

Both winners were satisfied with the race and the track. "The temperature was nice after some cloudy and rainy days in Huang-

shan, and we really enjoyed the sun and blue sky," Touzel said.

Amongst the women there was also a certain degree of domination with Zheng Lufang from China being the fastest of them all, beating her main competitor Lü Taotao by almost six minutes.

Not all participants starting that morning took the trip to Huangshan shooting for first place. Many of the riders came simply to experience the amazing nature of the area from atop bike.

Martin Breuvert, a French rider working at an international company in Shanghai and who won the men's title in last year's Inner Mongolia event, finished seventh this time.

"Life has never before been so rich and colorful," Breuvert said. "I like cycling, but I don't really care about winning. I am here just for the fun of it."

After the race was completed, it was time for the 500 participants to allow the past days experience to sink in. No one had been disappointed.

## Chinese neighbors require quiet expat residents

By Annie Wei

With more young expats renting local residential apartments, the negative feedback on noisy weekend parties held by these visitors has increased.

Last Saturday, a house-warming party held at a building in Xinfu'erun really stirred up anger amongst the local residents.

It was midnight and Room 8-301, building 34 was jammed with young people having a party. Two men were smoking and one woman chatted loudly on the balcony with the window open.

A Chinese neighbor who lived opposite them requested they be quiet. Another Chinese woman from another apartment

opened her window and asked the security guards to help.

Four or five security guards showed up and knocked on the door asking the party people to be quiet. They were ignored.

One of the security guards said, "They pretend that they can't understand Chinese." The neighbor decided to call the police.

Another two foreigners, who did not live in the same building, heard the chaos and came over to persuade the tenants to quiet down.

Within two minutes, the police arrived. Some of the party guests started leaving. The policeman and the neighbor who had called 110 walked over to room 8-301. However,

the tenant refused to open the door.

Policemen cannot force entry into a resident's apartment, so Chen, the policeman who was in charge of the area, said he would contact the landlord for a solution.

A Chinese neighbor said that such late-night parties had affected his family's rest, and there were many small children and senior citizens living in this building as well.

Suvi, 22, from Europe, was one of the guests attending this housewarming party. She said that foreigners in town liked having a housewarming party when they moved and staying at one's own house to drink is much cheaper than going to expat bars.

"They don't really care about the neigh-

bors," Suvi admitted. "And they don't realize how much noise they are making."

Chen, the policeman tried to contact the tenant the next day. The tenant, a young woman registered as an Australian, claimed to be a volunteer in Beijing and she refused to open the door.

The police officer said he had called the landlord, surnamed Wu, who said he would prefer not to rent his apartment to such tenants if they keep bothering neighbors.

The exit and entry bureau said many local residents have reported noisy foreign neighbors. However, there is not serious punishment available for such behavior outside of calling 110 for help.

7

Debate

Peking Opera goes back to school



Rewards for relinquishing seats



Two kidney transplants rejected by regulations



Response



Neurology



Comment



Background



Eastern and western viewpoints meet here



### 洋腔论见

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7

Debate

BEIJING TODAY



# Homestays keep recruiting



One of the demonstration homestay families for the Games. Would you like to rent their room?

Photo by Li Muiyi

By Gan Tian

The Beijing Tourism Bureau launched the "Olympic homes" program at the beginning of April, aiming at providing home stays for the tourists coming for the Olympics.

The program was supposed to close to the public on April 30, but

the bureau decided to continue the recruitment of homes this month.

The bureau said owners of an apartment are not allowed to receive guests randomly.

The 1,000 Olympic homes would be one part of the tourism products of the Olympics. The cost of home stays average around 400

to 600 yuan per day, but the price will vary according to the conditions of the apartment.

Qualified homestays should meet the following requirements:

**Place:** The apartments should be within the areas of the downtown eight districts. The main areas are Dongcheng, Xicheng, Chaoy-

ang and Haidian districts, which are near the Olympic events.

**Language:** At least one of the family members should speak fluent English.

**Other facilities:** The home should offer a sterilization facility, fire controlling system and clean toilets.

## Couch-surfers need to register

By Annie Wei

A couch-surfing service can be another option that might help young backpackers with tight budgets solve the problem of cost and the lack of hotel room service during the Games.

Currently, there are almost 5,000 registered couches in China. Most people offer free couches for two or three days.

Some young local residents also want to try couch surfing to meet friends from all over the world.

Echo Lee, a 25 year-old Chinese woman said, "My apartment does not qualify as an Olympic home stay, so I think that couch

surfing might be an interesting way to help someone who wants to know Beijing."

To most people, the primary purpose of couch surfing is to find a free place to stay or to locate people to hang out with while they are traveling the world.

It's a simple process. Participants have to fill out a profile form and register at couchsurfing.com. They will tell people what they offer and what they expect from the couch surfers. For example, most couch providers say two or three nights is not a problem. Some will request non-smokers.

Alex Saw, 29, from the Philip-

ines, said he had confirmed six requests from abroad asking for a place to stay during the Games.

Saw said he met some other couch surfers during a dinner when he traveled to other countries. Their experience made him believe it was a great idea.

He found couch surfing was helpful for him in between apartment leases.

However, in Beijing, according to local regulations from the People's Security Bureau, it is advised that you take your couch-surfers to register at the local police station even if they plan to stay for only one or two nights.

### Info about accommodation during the Games

According to China's biggest online booking service Ctrip.com, quoted prices for hotel stays in Beijing during the Games have skyrocketed to 10 times the norm.

Its online hotel reservation data shows that standard hotel rooms in four and five-star-ranked hotels during the Olympics have been nearly completely booked.

The Shanghai-based Ctrip.com also said that the hotel prices in Qingdao and Shenyang, the two co-host cities, will rise by 30-40 percent during the Olympics.

## First Temple Fair in Central Villa district opens

By Annie Wei/Han Manman

The First Folklore Temple Fair for the Central Villa District is the very first traditional temple fair specially held for expats living or traveling in Beijing.

Nine traditional arts will be presented at this temple fair, including skin-shadow puppets, paper-cutting, kites, inner painting on snuff bottles, imperial embroidery, dough and clay figurines, hairy monkeys and silk figurines. Some of these are no longer found at the temple fairs held yearly in Changdian and Baiyunguan.

At this fair, the most brilliant folklore art masters will give live performances, like the paper-cut master Xu Yang, who made paper-cut portraits for the presidents of the International Olympic Committee, Rogge and Samaranch, and Chinese handicraft art master of the dough figurine Feng Ge will also be in attendance.

Some excellent handicraft works with hundreds of years of history will be exhibited, such as shadow puppet models from Qing Dynasty and kites from the Republic of China.

Xu Yang will make paper-cut portraits for visitors, and Feng Ge will create dough figurines of attendees in their own image. Children can learn how to make and fly a kite, or to make clay figurines under the guidance of the masters.

The fair also will feature very original and primitive shadow puppet performances like the famous Monkey King and other ancient stories. After the performance, the children can go backstage to try the shadow puppet models.

Where: Pinnacle Plaza Tianzhu Development Zone, Shunyi district

When: May 17-18, 10 am - 4 pm

Cost: free

Tel: 13520087767

How to get there: Take bus 915 at Dongzhimen to Maliandian, turn left at the first traffic light, travel another 300 meters. It is opposite the New International Exhibition Center

### History of the temple fair:

In the past, there were regular religious rituals in the Buddhist and Taoist temples. There was competition among the temples, because each wanted to attract more disciples and extend its own influence. As a result, some temples arranged many entertainment acts to amuse people, such as traditional opera and acrobatics.

Then some business fairs joined in this activity and thus the name Temple Fair was born. Gradually, going to the temple fair became an inseparable part of people's lives. Common people used to buying desserts, choosing clothes, watching traditional operas and meeting friends at the temple fair.



Young children learn to appreciate paper-cutting art.

Photo by Wei Zhenlin

### ASK Beijing Today

Email your questions to: [weiyang@ynet.com](mailto:weiyang@ynet.com)

When my family visits me they will want to see Beijing, I am thinking of using an English tour guide to show us around since I do not know that much about Beijing's history or all the city sights and I think it would be wiser to hire a professional tour guide. Any suggestions?

Go to some reliable travel agencies to find a tour guide, and if you know the route of the sites you want to visit, an electric tour guide can help.

China International Travel Service head office (CITS)

Tel: 6522 2991

China Youth Travel Service (CYTS)

Tel: 40088-40086

Web: aoyou.com

Any ideas on where I can find high quality copper-coated cookware in Beijing?

You can buy it at many Chinese supermarkets, and at either the Scitech department store on Jianguomen Wai Dajie, or Lufthansa center department store on Liangmaqiao Lu.

You'll also find it at Yueshao market which is diagonally across from the computer market near Landao market. The sofa beds and kitchenware there are very nice. Frying pans and cookware are on the second floor.

I will fly into Beijing next month and need a place to stay for 30 days; I am looking for a nice western-style apartment for about 3,000 to 5,000 yuan per month that has a nearby gym that accepts one-month long memberships, less than 600 yuan.

Your requirements will require the help of a professional real estate agency. We found some information online that might be useful: there are some service apartments at Dongzhimen Wai.

It's a 30-minute cab ride to the National Stadium and the Olympic arenas for shooting and tennis when the traffic is good.

It is in the downtown area and very convenient. And there are two gyms at least offering less than 600 yuan for per month membership. For more detailed information, contact some real estate agencies through Google.

I have some kind of tumor which might have to be removed so I am looking for a really trustworthy place where they can check for cancer as well.

The Beijing Union Hospital's international department would be an option. It is a bit north of Dongdan. The Sino-Japanese Hospital is close to Andingmen. Both hospitals are famous for this type of surgery.

(By Bai Jingnan)



# Behind artists

## Probing Chinese contemporary art history th

By He Jianwei

Every artist has his own icon. A sculpture of a "green dog" represents Zhou Chunya. A portrait of a family and comrades is Zhang Xiaodong's icon.

A bare-headed man and water represent Fang Lijun. Sculptures of stainless steel rocks symbolize Zhan Wang.

How did they find their identifying image and

create their own st  
Hunan Fine Arts P  
exhibition on May  
tions through the a



Wang Youshen, *Street*, photography



Yue Minjun, *Garbage Hill*, acrylic on canvas



Wang Guangyi, *Time Grand Criticism*, oil on canvas

### Fang Lijun's bald figures and water

Fang Lijun is a founder of the Cynical Realist style in China and works often include aggressive, bald figures. Fang's bald man with his ambiguous expression and dreamlike background of unlimited space and freedom became a symbol of the subtle mockery that one can detect in the works of such artists.

Fang said the shaved heads and the water in his oil paintings are very important for him. "At that time, I needed to make a choice between the shaved head, and the more interesting water. But while water was more interesting, the visual effect might not have been as strong, not strong enough to attract interest in a younger painter, and there was also a problem of sequencing. I finally decided to first paint the shaved head and, to make the symbol striking, I left the feeling of the water in the later work," he said.

His paintings are indeed darkly hilarious: his subtly-distorted figures appear as glassy-eyed oafs – but then, they might be well aware of this. They might be mocking themselves. They might be quite pleased with their own powerlessness. Fang's stylized reality pokes fun while it doubles over on itself, cringes in pain, cries out or yawns. In any case, the artist behind these paintings is intent on not taking anything too seriously.

### Zhang Xiaogang and the Bloodline series

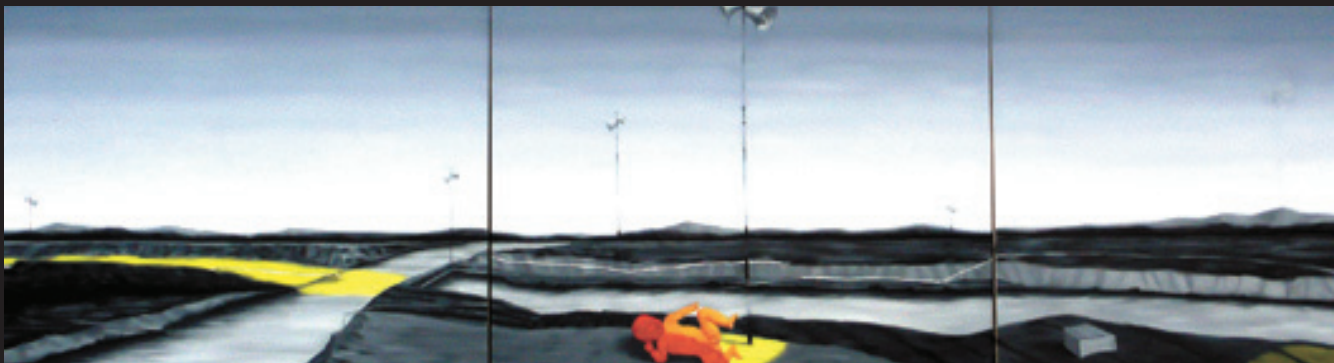
Zhang Xiaogang, a contemporary Chinese symbolic and surrealist painter, made a bloodline series of paintings, which are often monochromatic, stylized portraits of Chinese people, usually with large, dark eyes, posed in a stiff manner deliberately reminiscent of family portraits from the 1950s and 60s.

Zhang is one of the bestselling contemporary Chinese artists and a favorite of foreign collectors. On March 21, 2007, his work *Bloodline: Three Comrades* sold for US \$2,112,000 at Sotheby's in New York.

The spark for the Bloodline series came from old family photographs. Zhang said that the old photos "are a particular visual language. I am seeking to create an effect of 'false photographs' to re-embellish already 'embellished' histories and lives."

"On the surface, the faces in these portraits appear as calm as still water, but underneath there is great emotional turbulence. Within this state of conflict the propagation of obscure and ambiguous destinies is carried on from generation to generation," he said.

Asked about the full title of the Bloodline series, *Bloodline: the Big Family*, Zhang said, "We all live in a big family. The first lesson we have to learn is how to protect ourselves and keep our experiences locked up in an inner chamber away from the prying eyes of others, while at the same time living in harmony as a member of this big family. In this sense, the 'family' is a unit for the continuity of life and an idealized mechanism for procreation. It embodies power, hope, life, envy, lies, duty and love. The 'family' becomes the standard model and the focus for the contradictions of life experiences. We interact and depend on each other for support and assurance."



Zhang Xiaogang, *A Scene with A Baby*, oil on canvas



Fang Lijun, 2007 1-3, oil on canvas



# ts' icons

## through artists' case studies

style? S Z Art Center, funded by the Publishing House, will present its first 25 to try and answer these questions' individual experiences. Lu

Peng, an art critic, curates this exhibition. Meanwhile, the Hunan Fine Arts Publishing House will release a book written by Lu, who made case studies of 23 artists in recent years.

### Zhou Chunya and his green dog

Zhou Chunya, who graduated from the Sichuan Academy of Fine Arts in 1982, is best-known for his colorful "green dog" series of paintings and sculptures. His works are almost expressionistic – sometimes using jagged brush strokes and other times creating colorful, blurred sweeping landscapes.

In 1994, Zhou's household acquired a German shepherd and the painter named him Heigen, or Blackie. The dog soon started appearing in his paintings and the intimate relationship between the painter and the pooch made it seem there would never be an end to his subject, but Blackie died in 1999.

At first, Blackie was a concrete living animal and the painter meticulously painted him, and even though he began showing the canine in green in 1997, the brush strokes remained fine and carefully executed.

After Blackie's demise, Zhou accessed his once vigorous life from memory. The painter

had already moved far beyond the actual subject and was indulging in his own technique, recollecting the lost Blackie through free brush strokes of Chinese grass-style calligraphy.

The image of the "green dog" was sculptural, but at the same time contained the structure of brush strokes drawn from the characteristics of scholar-painter paintings, inviting connections between sculpture and the flower and bird genre.

"I think Bada Shanren's (eight great Chinese wash painters during 1626 to 1705) birds and flowers can be aptly associated with the dimensions of sculpture and its sense of space; at the same time they can be defeated by the sculptural depth of that large area, and so I took a risk and enlarged this space to conceal the visual attributes that form the background in the ancient paintings," Zhou wrote in his *Among Flowers: Interview with Zhou Chunya*.

### Zhan Wang's stainless steel stones

Zhan Wang is among the most-respected artists in China, having become world-renown for his stainless steel sculptures of "scholars' rocks," the graceful, craggy boulders found in several provinces around China seem to have been sculpted by natural forces into complex forms worthy of thoughtful contemplation-almost like mental or spiritual landscapes.

In 1995, Zhan began making stainless steel copies of Chinese scholars' rocks. His versions in stainless steel address tensions between landscape and industrialization, tradition and modernity.

"Several friends came to my house for a party. While chatting with them, I was fiddling with some discarded foil from a chocolate wrapper and noticed that the chance arrangement of the foil resembled an artificial rock, a new project I was planning for the future. My friends thought that this was the inspiration for my work, but it was at

that time that the revelation catalyzed an ongoing chain of musings I had been having about my rocks," Zhan said.

Zhan collects rocks that range from palm-size to monumental. He pounds, bends, heats, and molds sections of stainless steel plate across the topography of each rock. In essence, Zhan applies a modern industrial skin to an ancient geological body.

"Placed in a traditional courtyard, rockery satisfied people's desire to return to nature by offering them stone fragments," the artist said, "But huge changes in the world have made this traditional ideal increasingly out of date. I used stainless steel to duplicate and transform natural rockery into manufactured form. The material's glittering surface, ostentatious glamour and illusory appearance make it an ideal medium to convey new dreams."



Zhou Chunya, *Stone, Smoke and Cloud*, oil on canvas



Zhan Wang, *Scholar's Rocks*, stainless steel sculpture



Zhao Nengzhi, *Body No 3*, oil on canvas

Photos provided by SZ Art Center

### Artists in Art History

Participant artists: Fang Lijun, Hong Lei, Huang Rui, He Sen, Li Luming, Liu Xiaodong, Mao Xuhui, Pan Dehai, Song Yonghong, Tang Zhigang, Wang Chuan, Wang Guangyi, Wang Youshen, Yue Minjun, Ye Yongqing, Yin Zhaoyang, Zhou Chunya, Zeng Fanzhi, Zeng Hao, Zhao Nengzhi, Zhan Wang, Zhang Xiaogang, Zhang Yu  
Where: S Z Art Center, 798 Art District, 2-4 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang District  
When: May 25 to June 29, Tuesday to Sunday, 10 am - 6 pm  
Tel: 6435 9719

#### S Z ART CENTER OF HUNAN FINE ARTS PUBLISHING HOUSE

Inaugural Exhibition:

#### Case Studies of Artists in Art History and Art Criticism

Part 1:

#### Case Studies of Artists in Art History

Curator:

Li Peng

Dates:

May 25th-June 29th, 2008

Artists:

Huang Rui

Mao Xuhui

Yue Minjun

Zhang Yu

Zeng Hao

Tang Zhigang

Wang Chuan

Wang Youshen

Song Yonghong

Zhao Nengzhi

Hong Lei

Zeng Fanzhi

Pan Dehai

Liu Xiaodong

Wang Guangyi

He Sen

Zhan Wang

Zhou Chunya

Ye Yongqing

Fang Lijun

Zhang Xiaogang

Yin Zhaoyang

Li Luming

圣之空间

SZ

ART CENTER

Add: 798 Factory, Jiuxianqiao Road No 2-4, Chaoyang Dist. Beijing, 100015, China

Tel: +86-10-64381068 64357838 Fax: +86-10-64359719

E-mail: info@szartcenter.com Web: www.szartcenter.com

Part 2: Case Studies of Artists in Art Criticism

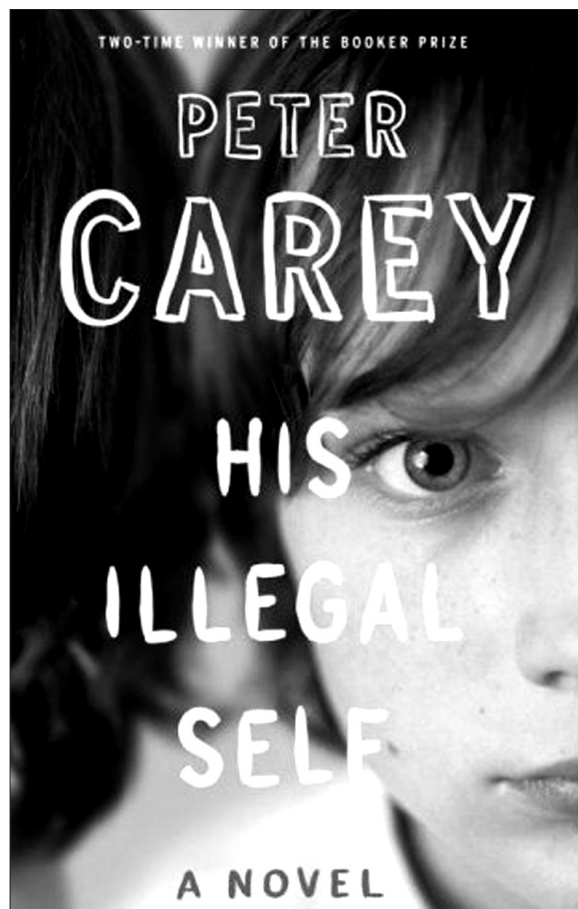
Curator: Zhu Zhu

Dates: July 6-August 3, 2008

Activities coming along with the exhibition include lectures, projections and book show.



# A post-modernist boy



By Charles Zhu

Jay Selkirk, real name Che, was born in the 1960s to radical parents, both members of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS). His parents were famous revolutionaries who have disappeared underground to rob banks and make bombs for their cause.

Peter Carey, who won the Booker Prize with *Oscar and Lucinda* and *the True History of the Kelly Gang*, tells the twists and turns in the otherwise simple life of Che, an adventurer and outlaw, and a series of his hiding places in his recent novel *His Illegal Self* (272pp, Knopf, US \$24.95): a dream, an adventure and a nightmare of a modern, tormented soul.

Che's mother and the Dobbs Street Cell robbed the bank in Bronxville; his father was a political prisoner locked up at Kenoza Lake. He grew up as a Victorian in a radical age under the care of his maternal grandmother, a wealthy, eccentric and devoted heiress of Park Avenue. He spent long days of seclusion in upstate New York, far from busy metropolitan society.

One day, a woman stepped out of the elevator into the apartment on East Sixty-Second Street and he recognized her straightaway: his mother had returned. However, she was not his mother, but the babysitter Anna Xenox, also called Dial, daughter of a Greek immigrant and his mother's Harvard alumna. *His Illegal Self* tells a tale of love between Anna, a former radical, and the little boy.

One day Dial agreed to take the boy to his mother, a radical student turned unwashed hippie, for two hours, then back to Grandma Selkirk.

As Dial and Che set off on the journey, they experienced the feelings of new lovers. At Penn Station, an SDS toady handed them two Greyhound tickets to Philadelphia on which "Change of plan. Mrs. Selkirk expects you to go to Ph and be back tonight" were written in pencil. When they arrived in Philadelphia, Mrs. Selkirk called and said that she did not know anything about it. She accused Dial of kidnapping the boy.

At that time, Dial found that the boy's mother had blown herself up while waiting in an underground bomb workshop for her son to come. Dial had no choice but to become a fugitive with the boy. The boy was taken from Park Avenue to Philadelphia to Oakland to Seattle to Australia, a country founded by deported prisoners and dipped in the myth of the outcast.

Che loved and trusted Dial, and Dial loved him. The reader is constantly reminded of Jack London's Buck. The boy and the dog were all carried away cheerfully, willingly, having no idea that they will be far away from home, far away from their familiar lives.

The uneasy, protective guilt always haunted her. Dial buys a piece of land in a hippie commune on the edge of the rain forest. The author used the word "tangled" to describe the rain forest, the chaos and their relationship. Dial looked "down at him as if he was some poor moth she's tangled in a string."

The novel ends with a daring and heartbreaking rescue worthy of this adventure tale.

## How steamboats and religion made America

One of the most damning problems with history books is how professors often forget that history, at base, remains a story. The problem of the accessible history book is the bane of college freshman, but the people at Pulitzer say Daniel Walker Howe's *What Hath God Wrought: The Transformation of America, 1815-1848* (928pp, Oxford University Press, US \$23.10) is safe for the masses.

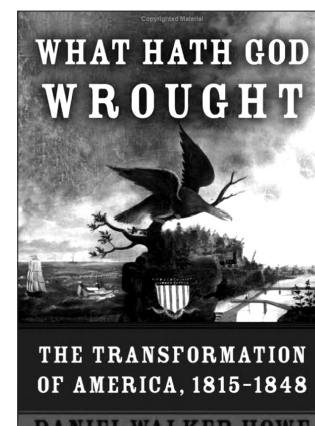
The 2008 Pulitzer Prize-winning book was well received by both academics and common readers. *Bookmarks Magazine* noted the book's attention to detail when it declared it "exhaustively researched and well written." Rather than fall into the pit of analyzing the 1800s in terms of market revolutions – the norm for historical writing – Howe takes a broader view of the period's movements. That view, *Bookmarks* says, is what makes the book so accessible to non-academics: especially history buffs.

*What Hath God Wrought*

chronicles a time of great change in the US. In 1815, the US was a third world country where people lived on subsistence farming and the skills to make everything they needed. But by 1848, the inventions of the steamboat and railroad and the digging of the Erie Canal changed the country as it entered the global economy. The extension of US territory westward created what Howe calls "a transcontinental empire that these improvements in transportation and communication could integrate."

The book also focuses on the role of religion and how the votes of Evangelical Christians have been counted on by Republicans since the party appeared in 1854. Many of the earliest colleges we founded to spread their version of Christianity – a mission they took as seriously as education. "Most of the social reform causes characteristic of the period, notably the movement to abolish slavery, were primarily religious in motivation," he says.

The book offers the kind



of excellent and well-digested survey of this time period that is mostly lacking from US education, both in high school and undergraduate courses.

### About the Author

Howe is a historian and professor emeritus at both Oxford University and UCLA. He has long studied US history, and previously published *The Political Culture of the American Whigs* in 1984.

(By Derrick Sobodash)

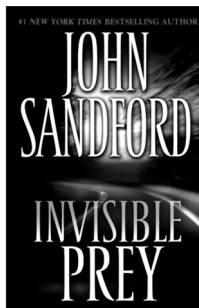
## CNPIEC Bookstore book listing

The China National Publication Import and Export Corporation's (CNPIEC) bookstore recommends the following new arrivals to *Beijing Today* readers.

### Invisible Pray

By John Sandford, 384 pp, Putnam Publishing Group, 198 yuan

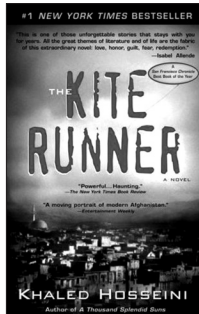
Two elderly women lie murdered at home, beaten to death with a metal pipe, their rooms ransacked, and only small items stolen. It is clearly a random break-in by someone looking for money to buy drugs. But as he looks more closely, Lucas Davenport begins to wonder if there might not be some invisible agenda at work here. Gradually, a pattern begins to emerge – and it will lead Davenport to somewhere he never expected. Which is bad, because the killers – and there are more than one – are expecting him.



### The Kite Runner

By Khaled Hosseini, 400 pp, Riverhead Books, 110 yuan

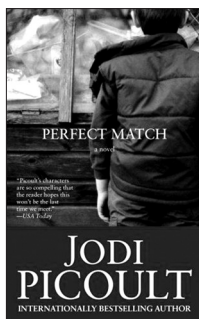
Raised in the same household and sharing the same wet nurse, Amir and Hassan grow up in different worlds: Amir is the son of a prominent and wealthy man, while Hassan, the son of Amir's father's servant, is a Hazara – a shunned ethnic minority. Their intertwined lives and fates reflect the tragedy of the world around them.



### Perfect Match

By Jodi Picoult, 528pp, Simon & Schuster Export, 90 yuan

As an assistant district attorney, Nina Frost prosecutes child molesters. However, when her own five-year-old son Nathaniel is traumatized by a sexual assault, Nina and her husband are shattered, ripped apart by an enraging sense of helplessness in the face of a futile justice system Nina knows all too well. In a heartbeat, Nina's absolute truths and convictions are turned upside down, and she hurtles toward a plan to exact her own justice for her son – no matter the consequence.



### CNPIEC Bookstore

Where: the second floor of CNPIEC, No 16 Gongti Dong Lu, Chaoyang  
Open: 8:30 am – 6:30 pm  
Tel: 6500 1859, 6592 6871

(By Zhang Dongya)



# Say goodbye to your barber

By He Jianwei

For some people, going to a salon or a barber shop is an enjoyable experience. For others, it is something that they would rather not do, because of the cost or other reasons. Some people who try to cut their own hair and share their experience through BBS or online group chatting. A pair of scissors, a comb and piece of cloth are all you need.

People usually cut their own hair to save money. "The first time I cut my hair was in college. It grew too fast. As a student, the cost of a haircut is nothing to sneeze at," Ivy Yan, an entertainment worker, said.

Her first attempt was awful. She cut her hair as she remembered the barber doing. "I cut it very carefully, but still hurt my fingers," Yan said.

Although the first experience was not a good one, Yan loved to cut her hair. She found other people interested in the technique on the Internet.

Some people hate to go to the barber shop, because they feel embarrassed in front of the barbers. "I'm an introvert. It's not that they are unprofessional, just that their over-zealous attitude makes me uneasy," Eva Lin, a freelancer photographer, said.

Yan has cut her own hair several times. "Cutting my hair is kind of addicting. After I cut it, sometimes I feel a little bit depressed, but other times I feel proud. A bad result just motivates me to work harder the next time," she said.

She has several tips for beginners. "Wet hair is much easier to cut than dry hair. You'd better start with freshly shampooed, tangle-free hair," she said.

A bottle of water with a spray nozzle nearby is necessary. "If your hair begins to dry while you are working on it, you can dampen it with a few spritzes," she said.

The quality of scissors is the key point for cutting hair. "Make sure your scissors are nice and sharp to avoid pulling your hair. If you plan to cut your hair on a regular basis, it is worth investing in a pair of good scissors that are made for cutting hair," she said.

Beginners should only cut a little at a time, Yan said, no matter which style they choose. "You can always cut it a little shorter, but once you have gone too short, all you can do is to wait for it to grow back," she said.

Simple styles are best for home hair cuts. "The easiest cut is one length everywhere. Working in small sections, comb the hair straight out from the scalp and hold a section smoothly between the index and middle fingers. Measure to the desired length and carefully snip off the excess," Yan said.

This method works equally well for both men and women. The length of the chosen cut can vary from quite short to shoulder length and beyond.

Another method is to lean over and comb all of the wet hair straight forward. "Smooth sections of the hair through your fingers and cut all the hair in one straight line. Work in small sections and continue from one side to the other," she said.

Then, part the hair in the middle and comb it straight down. "Run small sections of the hair between the index and middle fingers to see if there are any long pieces. If you find some, carefully snip off the excess."

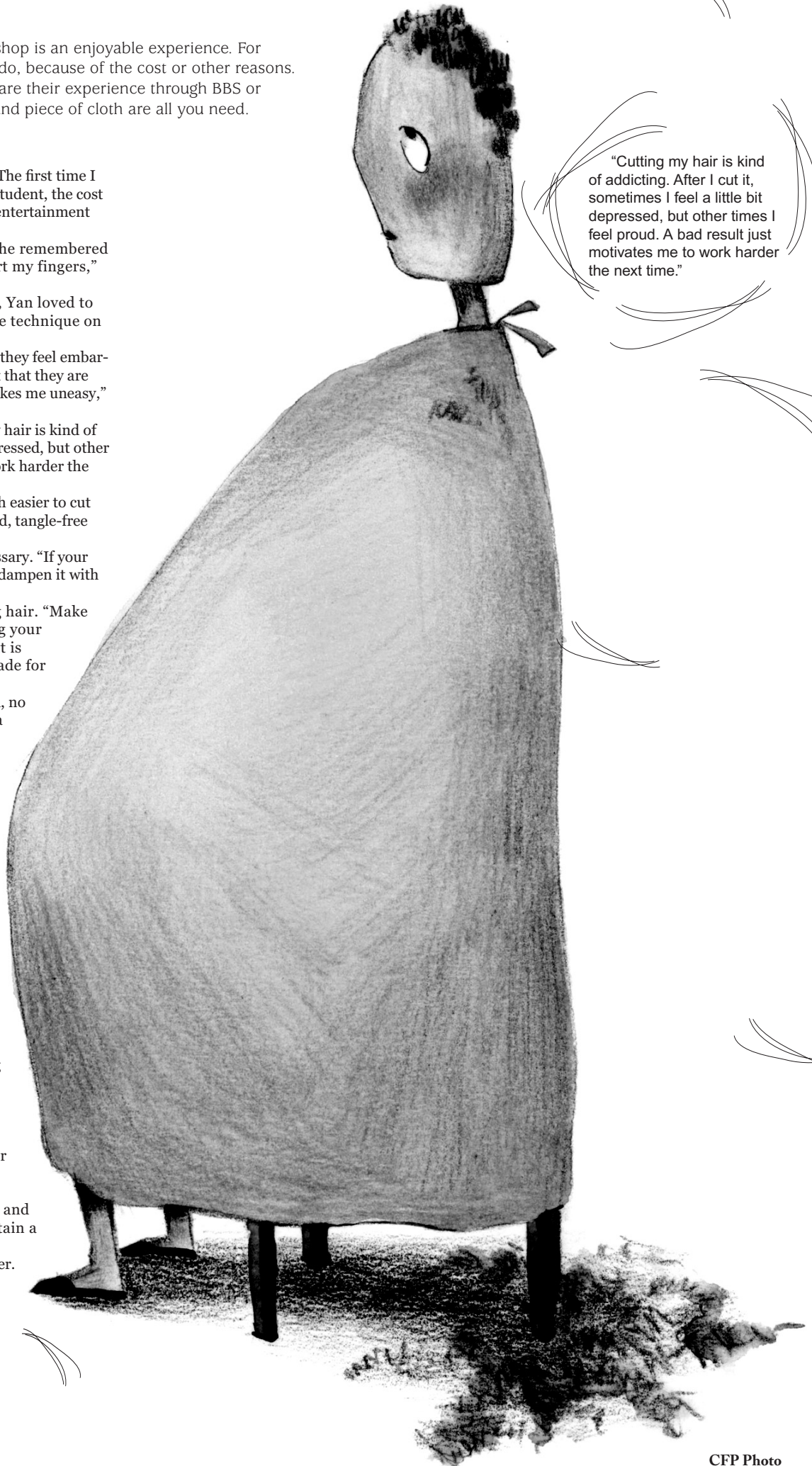
"For curly hair, you must be sure to cut the hair considerably longer than the desired finished length. Curls shrink up quite a bit as they dry," Lin said.

To cut bangs requires some skill. "Begin with your hair parted in the center. Using the comb, take an equal amount of hair from each side of the part and comb it forward. Smooth the hair between the index and middle fingers and cut across, being careful to maintain a straight line," Yan said.

For men's hair, consider using an electric hair clipper. These lightweight clippers can help you to set the blades to your desired length, ranging from completely bald to several inches of hair.

"Just remember to keep it simple," she said.

"Cutting my hair is kind of addicting. After I cut it, sometimes I feel a little bit depressed, but other times I feel proud. A bad result just motivates me to work harder the next time."



CFP Photo



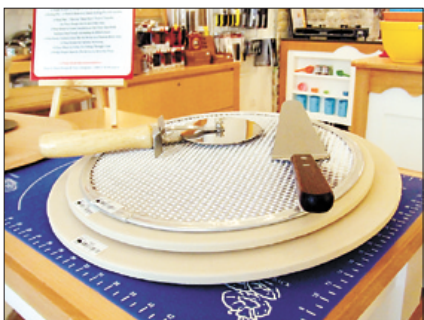
# Serious kitchenware for serious cooks

By Annie Wei

Getting serious about kitchenware is a sign of becoming more mature and wiser, settling down, enjoying family time and caring more about your health.

Pantry Magic is a newly-opened cookware store at Sanlitun, with a wide product selection from coffee makers to pizza stones.

Beijing Today has found you some excellent professional cookware.



## Pizza-stone

Xiaoqin, a Pantry Magic staff member, is a Sichuan cook who just moved from Shanghai to Beijing. Xiaoqin specializes in French, Italian and Sichuan cuisine.

Although there are many blogs, TV cooking programs demonstrate how to make easy pizza even with a rice cooker but the quality does vary. Most home-made pizza does not taste as crispy as those sold by genuine Italian restaurants. However, a set of pro pizza tools can help improve one's kitchen performance.

The special pizza stone, made of pressed sand, insulates the oven making it absorb and radiate heat evenly to make the pizza taste crispy all over.

Price: 152 yuan for a small one

## Silicone series

Silicone cookware is getting more and more popular now as it replaces baking trays coated with teflon, now identified as containing toxic chemicals.

Compared to Teflon, silicone cookware is made of synthetic rubber created from bonded silicon and oxygen. Silicon is a very common natural element found in sand and rock.

This element is resistant to wide temperature ranging from -40C to +300C, which makes silicone cookware suitable for fridge or oven and can help reduce the need for plastic wrap and foil.

Silicone rubber does not react with food, liquids and most chemicals or give off dangerous fumes. Other advantages are: it is stain-resistant, flexible, light weight, can be recycled and

cools fast. It does not retain odors from food, which makes it good for storing frozen food or preserving food.

However, silicone cookware is more expensive than other types.

Cat's favorite silicone models are those suitable for baking cakes, making ice cream or even jellies in the shapes of castles, trains, roses and even stadiums. They also have smaller pieces in the shape of sea-shells to create interesting ice-cubes.

Other silicone products include egg rings, small baking cups and silicone covers, which can be recycled and are more environmentally-friendly.

Price: 120 to 200 yuan for silicone bakery

35-220 yuan for silicone covers



**Pantry Magic**  
Where to buy:  
81 Sanlitun Beilu  
Tel: 5208 6001



## Cast Iron cooker

For thousands of years, Chinese people used an iron wok to cook all kinds of dishes. The disappearance of iron from Chinese diets seemed unlikely until modern steel-less cookware appeared on the scene.

Scientific studies showed that cooking in a cast iron skillet added significant amounts of iron to one's food and one's body, and the more food was cooked the more iron was absorbed.

According to the Pantry Magic manager, Cat, a cast iron cooker is good for winter cooking since it takes a long time to heat the cast iron up and a long time to cool it down. Therefore, food cooked in cast iron cooker can be kept warm for a much longer time.

The cast iron cooker is a very traditional cooking tool in many European families and is passed on from generation to generation.

Price: several hundred, depending on the size of the cooker



## Copper tri-ply

All copper tri-ply has three layers, copper exterior, aluminum inner core for superior conductivity and a stainless steel interior surface.

It is said that the stainless steel interior surface is non-reactive. It won't tarnish or change color when you cook acidic foods like tomato sauce. Also it is highly reflective. That makes it easy to see inside the pan to judge color and texture changes that indicate when foods are properly cooked.

Price: 300 to 1,600 yuan



Photos by Zhou Zhiyi and Neil Darby



# Make a cocktail for yourself

By Li Jing

The cocktail is a style of mixed drink, but not all mixed drinks are cocktails. A cocktail specifically contains one or more types of liquor and flavorings such as fruit juice, syrup, honey, milk, cream or spice.



Manhattan

## Guide to making cocktails

There are many elements closely connected to cocktails, including recipes, glassware and actions.

### Glass wares

A cocktail glass, martini glass or champagne glass, or stem cocktail glass, is a drinking glass with a cone-shaped bowl on a stem above a flat base, used to serve a cocktail or champagne. As with other stemware, the stem allows the drinker to hold the glass without affecting the temperature of the drink.

One variation is the double martini glass which is taller and wider at the opening than a standard martini glass. Another variation is a stub glass, which is identical to the martini glass, except that the base is attached directly to the bowl, removing the fragile stem. These glasses are used in situations where breakage and theft of regular martini glasses occurs frequently, such as a bar serving college students.

### Actions

In James Bond, Agent 007 always ordered a martini "shaken, not stirred." Different actions contribute to different tastes. When you are mixing drinks, try making one stirred and one shaken.

#### Shaking

This drink involves adding the ingredients and ice to the cocktail shaker, shaking well and straining into a serving glass.

#### Stirring

Drinks are assembled in the glass portion of a cocktail shaker with ice and stirred with a long cocktail spoon before being strained in a serving glass.

#### Blending

Place all the ingredients into a blender and blend until smooth, starting slowly and then speeding up.

#### Building

Preparing a drink in the glass in which it will be served, usually by pouring the ingredients in a specific order then stirring.



Margarita  
Photos provided by  
Renaissance Hotel



Martini



A scene in Renaissance  
Beijing Hotel

## What is a cocktail?

"A cocktail is a stimulating liquor composed of spirits of any kind, sugar, water and bitters - it is vulgarly called a bittered sling and is supposed to be an excellent electioneering potion."

Cocktail was defined as above in May 1806 by *Balance*, an American magazine. The appearance was the word's second time in print.

## The history of cocktails

People have been mixing drinks for centuries, but it wasn't until the 17th and 18th centuries that the precursors of the cocktail became popular enough to be recorded in history.

It's unclear where, who, and what went into the creation of the original Cocktail, but it seems to be a specific drink rather than a category of mixed drinks during that time.



Champagne

## Where to taste

If you are not sure about your technique, you can taste these drinks in bars and exchange ideas with bartenders. Bars also offer an opportunity to swap ideas with the bartender.

Where: Renaissance Beijing Hotel, 36 Xiaoyun Lu, Chaoyang  
Tel: 6468 9999

## Recipes

### Martini: classic

Ingredients:  
3 oz Smirnoff Vodka or Beef-eater Gin  
1/4 oz dry Vermouth  
Garnish:  
Lemon twist or two jumbo olives  
Action:  
Shake and strain or shake and pour  
Glass:  
Martini or rocks  
Variants  
Extra dry martini: eliminate Vermouth  
Medium dry martini: pour 1/4 oz, Vermouth in ice and drain  
Dirty martini: Add 1/2 oz olive juice  
**Manhattan: classic**  
Ingredients:

2 1/2 oz Maker's Mark  
1/2 oz sweet Vermouth  
3 dashes Angostura bitters  
Garnish:  
Maraschino cherry  
Action:  
Build or shake and strain  
Glass:  
Martini or rocks  
Variants:  
Dry Manhattan - substitute dry Vermouth for sweet, garnish with lemon twist  
Northern Manhattan - substitute Canadian club for Maker's Mark  
Perfect Manhattan - replace Vermouth with 1/4 oz dry Vermouth and 1/4 oz sweet Vermouth.  
**Margarita: tradicional**  
Ingredients:  
1 oz Jose Cuervo Tradicional Reposado

1/2 oz Cointreau  
1/4 oz fresh lime juice  
1/2 oz simple Syrup  
Garnish:  
Salt rim and lime wedge  
Action:  
Shake and pour  
Glass:  
Rocks  
**Champagne cocktail**  
Ingredients:  
1 sugar cube  
2 dashes Angostura Bitters  
6 oz sparkling wine or Champagne  
Garnish:  
Twist  
Action:  
Pour bitters over sugar cube, pour in sparkling wine or Champagne, garnish with twist  
Glass:  
Champagne flute



# 5

## Friday, May 16

### Exhibition

#### Bang – Liu Dahong

#### Solo Exhibition

Where: Aura Gallery, 13 Dongfeng Art Park, 1 Tuofangying Nan Lu, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 10 am – 6 pm, until May 25

Admission: free

Tel: 8459 8390

#### Peculiar – Contemporary Art Exhibition



The group exhibition features Ma Dongmin, Tong Zhengang, Tian Yonghua, Huang Yin, Wang Yihua, Wang Jian and Sun Dawei.

Where: Sound First Gallery, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 10 am – 6 pm, until May 30

Admission: Free

Tel: 6431 2501

### Leaving the Garden of Dreams



Where: Red Gate Gallery, Dongbianmen Watchtower, Chongwen

When: Daily 11 am – 6 pm, until June 8

Admission: Free

Tel: 6525 1005

### Movie



#### Jules et Jim

Where: French Culture Center, 1/F, Guangcai International Mansion, 18 Gongti Xi Lu, Chaoyang

When: 5 pm

Admission: 10-20 yuan

Tel: 6553 2627

## Sunday, May 18

### Exhibition Under the Sky

#### – International Visions in Contemporary Art

Alexander Ochs uses this exhibition to investigate possibilities and ideas in contemporary art – focusing on painting – in the group exhibition. This exhibition will assemble artworks by artists from Australia, Bulgaria, China, Germany, Korea and the Netherlands plus an abstract painting by Gerhard Richter from the year 1988.

Where: White Space

Beijing, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 11 am – 7 pm, until June 29

Admission: Free

Tel: 8456 2054

Garden Utopia



Where: National Art Museum of China, 1 Wusi Da Jie, Dongcheng

When: Daily 9 am – 5 pm, until May 22

Admission: 20 yuan

Tel: 6400 6326

#### The Silence of the Prairie

Where: Cloud & Sky Photo Image Gallery, C3006 Brewery Art Complex, Beihuqu Lu, Andingmen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 10:30 am – 5:30 pm, until June 1

Admission: free

Tel: 5202 3892

### Movie

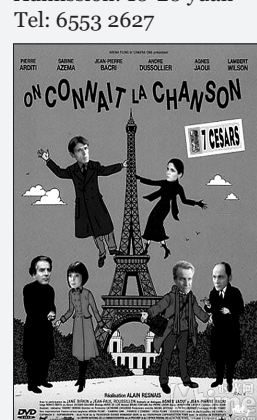
#### On Connait la Chanson

Where: French Culture Center, 1/F, Guangcai International Mansion, 18 Gongti Xi Lu, Chaoyang

When: 7:30 pm

Admission: 10-20 yuan

Tel: 6553 2627



### Upcoming

#### Opera Paguita

Who: Paris Opera Ballet  
Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People

When: 7:30 pm, May 16-18  
Admission: 280-1,280 yuan  
Tel: 6655 0000

## 6

### Saturday, May 17

Tel: 6427 7748

#### Thirteen-year-old child genius Yangchun Baixue Solo Exhibition

Where: Qin Gallery, Enjoy Paradise, Huaweili 1-1E (North of Beijing Curio City), Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 9:30 am – 6 pm, until May 31

Admission: Free

Tel: 8779 0461, 8779 0458

### Movie

#### Paris, Je T'aime



Where: French Culture Center, 1/F, Guangcai International Mansion, 18 Gongti Xi Lu, Chaoyang

When: 7:30 pm

Admission: 10-20 yuan

Tel: 6553 2627

## Stage in June

### Concert

#### French Piano Festival 2008

Who: David Krasumer  
Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng

When: 7:30 pm, June 6

Admission: 30-380 yuan

Tel: 6559 8306

#### Tong Vfang Xien Qi

#### Beijing Concert 2008

Who: Tong Vfang Xien Qi  
Where: Fengtai Sports Center, Fengti Beilu, Fengtai

When: 7:30 pm, June 13

Admission: 280-1,280 yuan

Tel: 6417 7845

#### Sound of the Century

Who: The Chinese National Orchestra

Where: Chinese National Orchestra Concert Hall, 15 Xiaoying Lu, Chaoyang

When: 7:30 pm, June 23-25

Admission: 50-380 yuan

Tel: 6491 9081

#### The Philadelphia

Orchestra Special Concert  
Who: The Philadelphia Orchestra

Where: Minorities Cultural Palace Theater, 49 Fuxingmen Nei Dajie, Xicheng

When: 7:30 pm, June 2

Admission: 280-1,680 yuan

Tel: 66022530

#### Concert by The Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra

Who: The Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra  
Where: Beijing Music Hall, 1 Bei Xinhua Jie, Xicheng

When: 7:30 pm, June 19

Admission: 60-580 yuan

Tel: 6605 7006

### Opera

#### Sleeping Beauty

Who: The Royal English Ballet

Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People

When: 7:30 pm, June 21-23

Admission: 100-1,080 yuan

Tel: 6655 0000

#### Nutcracker

Who: The St. Petersburg Children's Ballet Theatre of Russia

Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People

When: 7:30 pm, June 6-9

Admission: 60-380 yuan

Tel: 6655 0000

#### Swan Lake

Who: Royal Swedish Ballet

Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People

When: 7:30 pm, June 6-10

Admission: 100-1,080 yuan

Tel: 6655 0000

#### Fire Bird

Who: Ballet San Jose

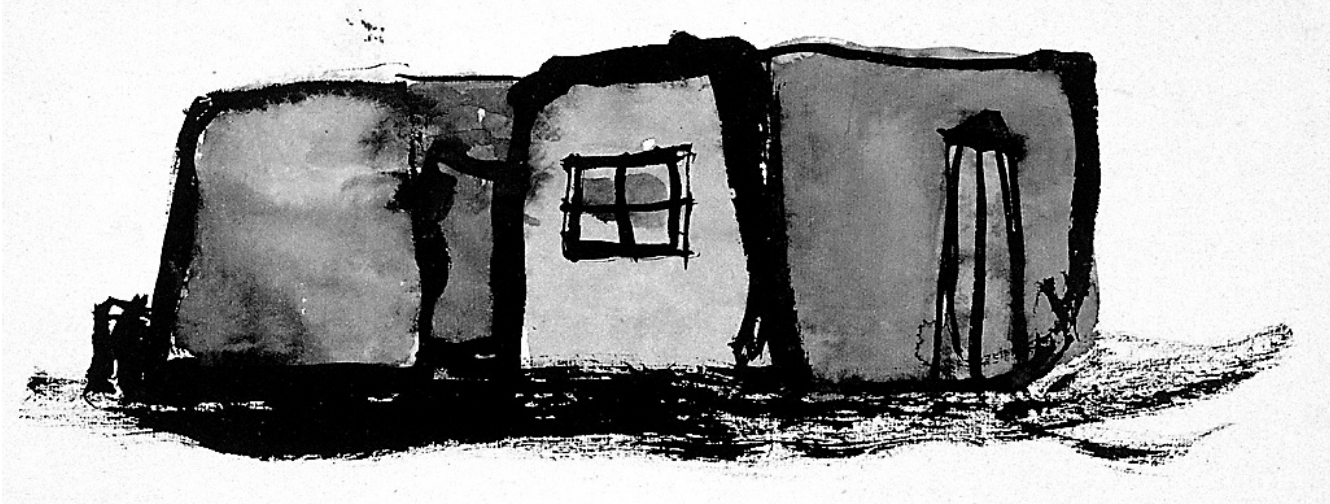
Where: Poly Theater, 14 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Chaoyang

When: June 13

Admission: 80-680 yuan

Tel: 6501 1854

(By Li Jing)





# Earthquake survivors guide

Wenchuan County in Sichuan suffered an earthquake with a magnitude of 7.9 on the Richter's scale at 2 pm Monday, and Beijing's office buildings swayed from after-shock waves. Never think that natural disasters happen to other people. Life is fragile when Mother Nature strikes, so always be prepared.

## Quake proof

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) of the US Department of Homeland Security has tips on what to do during an earthquake.

### Indoor tips

Drop to the ground and take cover by getting under a sturdy table or other piece of furniture. If possible, hold on tight until the shaking stops.

If there is not a table or desk near you, cover your face and head with your arms and crouch in the corner.

- Stay away from glass, windows, outside doors and walls, and anything that could fall or shatter.
  - Stay in bed if you are there when the earthquake strikes. Hold on and protect your head with a pillow, unless you are under a heavy light fixture that could fall. In that case, move to the nearest safe place.
  - Use a doorway for shelter only if it is in close proximity to you and if you know it is a strongly supported, load-bearing doorway.
  - Stay inside until the shaking stops completely and it is safe to go outside.
- Research has shown that most injuries occur when people inside buildings attempt to move to a different location inside the building or try to exit.
- Be aware that the electricity may go off or the sprinkler systems or fire alarms may turn on.
  - Do not use elevators.

### Outdoor tips

- Stay where you are.
- Stay clear of buildings, streetlights and utility wires.
- Once in the open, stay there until the shaking stops. The greatest danger exists directly outside buildings, at exits and alongside exterior walls. Ground movement during an earthquake is seldom the direct cause of death or injury. Most earthquake-related casualties result from collapsing walls, flying glass and falling objects.

### In a moving vehicle

- Stop as quickly as safety permits and stay in the vehicle. Avoid stopping near or under buildings, trees, overpasses and utility wires.
- Proceed cautiously once the earthquake has stopped. Avoid roads, bridges or ramps that might have been damaged by the earthquake.

### Trapped under debris

- Do not light a match.
- Do not move about or kick up dust.
- Cover your mouth with a handkerchief or piece of clothing.
- Tap on a pipe or wall so rescuers can locate you. Use a whistle if one is available. Shout only as a last resort. Shouting can cause you to inhale dangerous amounts of dust.

## After an earthquake

### Check for injuries

Do not move a seriously-injured person unless they are in immediate danger of further injuries.

### Safety check

- Fire or fire hazards.
- Gas leaks: Shut off the main gas valve only if a leak is suspected or identified by the odor of natural gas. Wait for the gas company to turn it back on once the damage is repaired.
- Damaged electrical wiring: Shut off power at the control box.
- Downed or damaged utility lines: Stay away from downed lines even if power appears to be off.
- Fallen objects in closets and cupboards: Displaced objects may fall when you open the door.
- Downed or damaged chimneys: Approach chimneys with caution. They may be weakened and could topple during an aftershock.
- Check your telephone: Make sure each phone is on its receiver. Telephones that are off the hook tie up the telephone network unnecessarily.

### Clean up

Clean up potentially harmful materials and medicines which may have spilled.

### Tsunami hazard

If you live along the coast, be alert for news of tsunami warnings. If you experience a strong earthquake, there may not be time to issue a warning. Move to higher ground as soon as you are able and stay there until the authorities issue an "all clear."

### Expect aftershocks

Most of these are smaller than the main earthquake. Some may be large enough to do additional damage to weakened structures.

- Use flashlights or battery-powered lanterns. Do not use lighters, matches, candles or lanterns until you are sure there are no gas leaks.
- Use your telephone only in the event of life-threatening emergencies.
- Turn on a battery-powered radio for information, damage reports and information on volunteering your assistance.
- Keep streets clear for emergency vehicles. Cooperate with public safety officials.

(By Gan Tian)



CFP Photo



# Inner Mongolia's blue city of temples

By Li Fenghua

Hohhot, which means the "blue city" in Mongolian, is also known as the city of temples for its dozens of places of worship. A local Hohhot saying goes, "There are eight big temples, seven small temples and 55 simple temples

in Hohhot." But those words offer only a glimpse into the multitude of temples in the city.

*Beijing Today* recommends several temples travelers can hit on a one or two-day stay in the city. The temples offer a chance to learn more about Buddhist culture.



Dazhao Temple is famous for its impressive buildings, splendid statues and fine collection of Buddhist scriptures.

CFP Photo

## Dazhao Temple, the oldest and largest Buddha temple

Dazhao Temple, also called Wuliang Temple, is the oldest building and the largest temple in Hohhot. It is located in the old section of Hohhot and was built in 1580 during Ming Dynasty. It is one of the biggest and best preserved temples in Hohhot.

It was also referred as the Silver Buddha Temple for its rare silver statue of Sakyamuni that measures 2.55 meters high. The Silver Buddha statue was dedicated by the third Tibetan Dalai Lama when he visited Dazhao Temple in 1586. The city became a religious center for people from all over Mongolia. It was also visited by Emperor Kangxi during the early part of the Qing Dynasty

(1644-1911).

The construction of the temple was completed in 1580 during Ming Dynasty (1368-1644AD) and it is the oldest Lamaist temple in Inner Mongolia. Despite major reconstruction in 1640, the original architectural style has been preserved.

The temple is now a well-known tourist attraction for its impressive buildings, splendid statues, delicate frescoes, musical instruments and fine collection of Buddhist scriptures. Its most notable relics are the "Three Marvelous Treasures," a title given to the Silver Buddha, the carved dragons on the huge golden pillars by the sides of the statues and

the murals commemorating the Emperor's visit.

The area outside Dazhao Temple has adobe houses, which are typically low and squat with decorated glass windows. There is one street called "Saishang Laojie" which is worth a visit. A lot of Mongolian handicrafts and relics are available there for a reasonable price – if you haggle.

Where: Dazhaoqian Jie, Yuquan District

Getting there: take bus 1, 6, 31, 19, 58 or a taxi

Open: 8 am – 6 pm

Cost: 30 yuan

Tel: 0471-630 3154



Wusutu means "close to water" in Mongolian.

## Wusutu Temple, a serene temple

Wusutu Temple is composed of five temples: Yingyuan, Faxi, Changshou, Guangshou and Luohan. The five temples are very close to each other and are magnificently constructed. The design and construction were all done by Mongolians.

The temple's name means "close to water" in Mongolian. It is located south of Daqing Mountain in Wusutu Village, 13 kilometers from the city. The temple is named after the village.

Wusutu Temple is beautiful all year round, with flowers blooming in spring, green almond trees in summer, yellow leaves in autumn and snowy mountains in

winter. It is one of the eight famous sights of old Hohhot.

The temple has many almond trees, which are reflected in the red walls of the temple buildings.

The engraved scripture of Song-bakanbu is housed in Wusutu temple. The scripture is 49 centimeters long and seven centimeters wide. There are about 3,455 pieces which tell about Buddhism, law, logic, medicine and math.

Where: 13 kilometers northwest of Hohhot

Getting there: Take taxi

Open: 8 am – 6 pm

Cost: 25 yuan



The pagoda looks like a Warrior Attendant's seat.

CFP Photo

## Five-Pagoda Temple, a uniquely constructed temple

Five-Pagoda Temple is on Wutasi Hou Jie, Yuquan District, Hohhot. The construction of the temple began in the 5th year of the reign of Emperor Yongzheng of the Qing Dynasty. The Pagoda is 16.5-meters-high and looks like a Buddha's Warrior Attendant's seat, with five exquisite pagodas on the base.

With more than 1,560 relief sculptures of Buddha engraved on the five pagodas, the temple has a reputation for being a "10,000-Buddha Tower." In addition, there are images of Bodhisattva, the four Devarajas, Buddhist Saints, Heavenly Ladies, holy birds and animals, and engraved scriptures written in Mongolian, Tibetan and Sanskrit on the walls of the pagodas. On the wall facing the temple there are three marble relief sculptures, including a plain sphere marked with Mongolian inscriptions.

Where: Wutasi Hou Jie, Yuquan District

Getting there: By Bus 1, 27, 31, 26, 50

Open: 8 am – 6 pm

Cost: 30 yuan

Tel: 0471-597 2640



The main hall is a place of worship.

## Xilitu Temple, largest lama temple

Xilitu Temple was built during the reign of Ming Emperor Wanli. Its name means "the first seat," or "sacred seat," in Mongolian. Located in the old city blocks, Shitou Lane, Yuquan district of Hohhot, Xilitu Temple occupies about 5,000 square meters and has a south-facing gate.

The temple is a traditional Han construction. It has a mountain gate and a main hall standing in an axis, side halls, storehouses and bell and drum towers laid out symmetrically in its wings. The main hall contains a sutra hall and a Buddha worship hall.

There are four temples affiliated with Xilitu: Guangshou, Yong'an, Puhui and Yanxi. Xilitu Temple is the name for all four.

Xilitu Temple is the most exquisitely preserved temple in Hohhot. The magnificent architecture and colored paintings make it a popular tourist destination. A lot of religious activities and Buddhist services are held there every year.

It is only about 100 meters away from Dazhao Temple, so it is convenient to visit both.

Where: Danan Jie 112, Yuquan District

Getting there: take bus 6 or taxi

Open: 8:30 am – 6 pm

Cost: 35 yuan

Tel: 0471-631 0332

**Tips:** Xilitu Temple is very close to Dazhao Temple. After you have visited Dazhao Temple, just cross the street and you'll see Xilitu Temple. It takes about two hours to visit these two temples. Five-Pagoda Temple is a 15-minute walk from Dazhao Temple. Wusutu Temple is a bit farther, so you may need a taxi.



# Seeking the most beautiful sunset in Oia

By Han Manman

To many, sunset is a most magical moment. One destination tops the list for the world's most traveled location for sunset lovers: Oia.

The blue domed church with a bell tower is set against an impossibly blue sky; colorful houses and churches cling to the edge of the volcanic basin as the sun dips into the Aegean to usher in night.



White and blue dominate Oia's palette.



The edge of the rim offers a breathtaking view of the Aegean.



In Oia, donkeys can reach where the roads cannot.

## Enjoying the sunset

Oia is a small village on the northern tip of the Greek island of Santorini.

Most visitors go to Oia for one reason only: the sunset. An hour before sunset, people converge on the island's old fort to fight it out for the best viewing spot. You need to go at least an hour early to find a good seat. Sunset comes at 8 pm during summertime and 7:25 in fall.

Locals say the fort is not the best place to see the sunset. Travelers can capture a better picture in one of the village's stair-studded corridors. The white walls will balance out the camera's color and include Greek architecture in the shot.

As sunset fades, the purple sky begins to twitch with stars and the village begins to light up for the night.

Sunset also offers excellent people watching opportunities. Some visitors climb to unbelievable heights for a spot to watch the sunset or make out with their lover.

## Walking around

A walkabout through and up the narrow streets to enjoy the view is a good idea. One view includes a spectacular white house with blue shutters, covered in pink flowers with the sea behind it. A few yards down you'll find two photogenic windmills. At every turn, you'll see the blue domed churches that dot every Greek postcard.

In the Oia village, visitors always

want to go to the very edge of the rim, where there is nothing but ocean ahead. Such spots offer a panoramic view of the basin, the volcano, Thirassia Island and other villages. Oia is a favorite haunt of artists, many of whose works can be found in the village's local galleries.

Restaurants abound. Usually the menu is posted outside so visitors can decide if they are up for the dishes of the day before venturing in. Restaurants with a view charge more. However, eating local delicacies such as tomato balls, fava, fried white eggplant and fresh seafood dishes accompanied by Santorinian wine may be a better way to enjoy the sunset than packing into a scenic spot with the other tourists.

## Local customs

Some guidebooks say that there are more donkeys in Santorini than inhabitants. Donkeys and mules are part of the native charm of the island and can be loads of fun. If lucky, you could have chance to see a bride ride a donkey during her wedding ceremony. There are still places in Oia only reachable by foot or donkey.

Cats and dogs are everywhere. They are lying on the pedestrian paths. Dogs prefer lying in the middle of the path, which can be a problem when crowds gather. Don't be surprised if a big dog follows you for an hour or more. The animals know that hotel guests are sure to feed them.

## Recommendations

Oia is small enough to explore by foot. If you want to go around Santorini and see what's on the other side, the easiest way is to rent a small car or a scooter as the roads are narrow and winding.

Besides Oia, the capital of Santorini Fira is another worthwhile trip since it has the best view of Volcano Island, which erupted on Santorini in about 1450 BC. Volcano Island was created by the remnants of the eruption. Do not be scared if you see sulfuric smoke coming out of the natural vents in the ground.

It is better visit the island during spring or late summer. Although June to August is the so-called best time to visit, the temperature is often over 40 C.

It is better not to buy things that could be purchased in Athens or other cities, as the island is pricey. You can buy local products such as Santorini wine, handwoven rugs, crotchets and fine jewelry designs truly unique and depicting the Cycladic art.

## How to get there

There is a ferry from Athens to Santorini that takes five to seven hours depending on if you opt for the low or high-speed ferry. Do not be surprised if the ferry arrives late – that is common in Greece.

There are few stops in Oia but there is only one bus station. Direct buses to Oia run from Fira and take about 30 minutes. All bus routes begin and end here, and it is a 10-minute taxi ride from the airport.

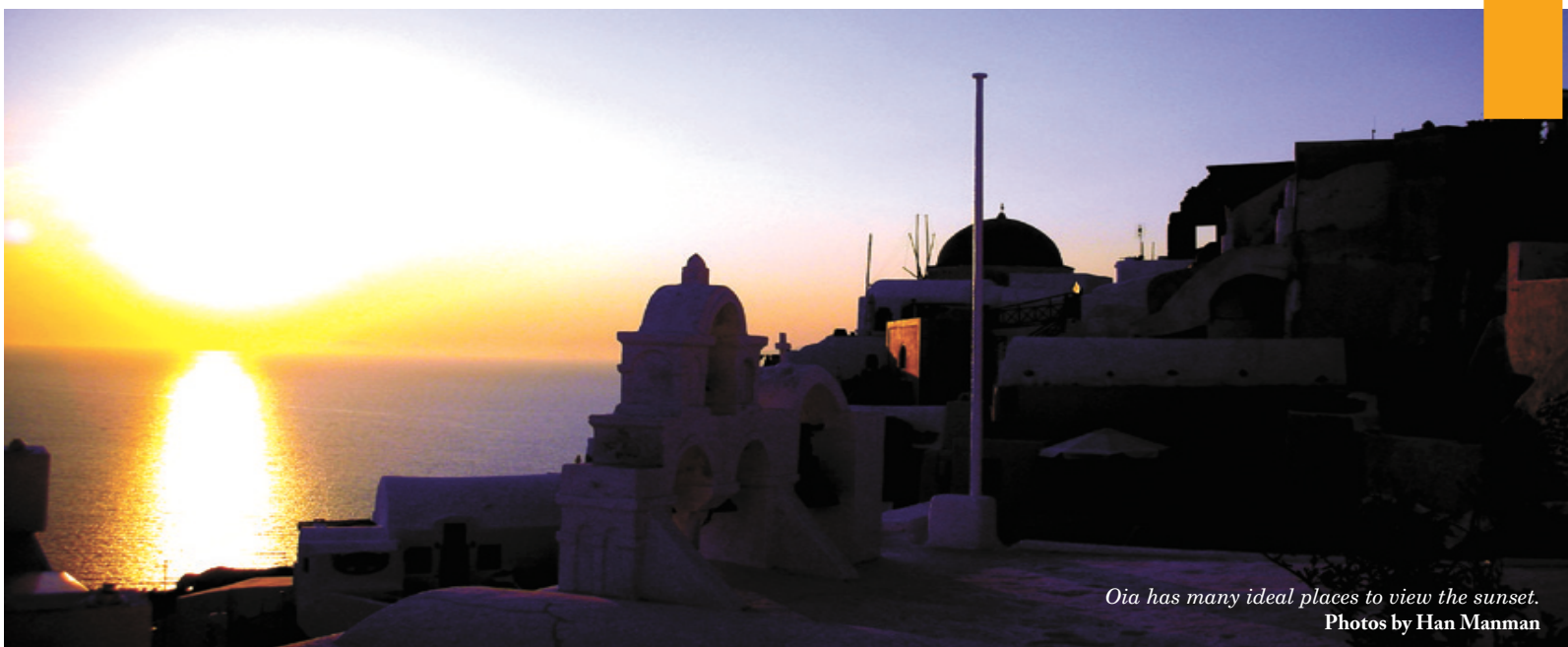
There are no direct buses from the port or airport in Oia. You will need to hire a taxi for €20 – 25. Most hotels organize their own transfers, and it may be a good option. The bus fare from Fira to Oia is 1.20 Euro. Buses run every half hour until about midnight.



Sunsets make for splendid photos.



All the lanes in Oia are colorful and narrow.



Oia has many ideal places to view the sunset.  
Photos by Han Manman





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# Cornering the market on communication

overcoming the many cultural barriers that make it difficult for Chinese and foreign employees to create a high level of rapport

By Kevin Tetarenko

Over the past five years, the skylines of Chinese cities like Shanghai, Beijing and Shenzhen have changed dramatically as glass skyscrapers such as the CCTV Tower and World Financial Centre have risen as tangible signs of China's vast economic growth. Despite this internal development and the massive level of investment by foreign companies, many of these organizations are finding that their Chinese offices are not running as efficiently or as profitably as initially envisioned.

So what is the problem? These companies have not only invested in office space in China, but have also sought out the best and the brightest local talent to staff their offices alongside the highest achievers from their homelands. However, it is unfortunately very common for a lack of chemistry and fundamental communication to hamper the ability of these offices to function smoothly. I noticed this problem while visiting one large American paper company with a mill in Beijing's development zone. The Chinese staff in the office did not like

their foreign manager who they nicknamed "ma fan," and were very uncooperative as a result. The manager did not improve relations when he patronized the staff and treated them as children. This led to a bad atmosphere in the office, which was obvious even to an outsider, and led to time-wasting and an unsatisfied work-force.

There are two common ways in which companies attempt, but often fail, to solve this problem. The first is to enlist the aid of an English school. A young, foreign native speaker with little or no business experience is tasked with raising the English fluency level of the company's employees, yet after class is over, the same communication problems persist. The second way is to hold a team building event in which Chinese and foreign employees are

treated to an array of activities and usually given problems to solve as a group. The reason that neither of these is able to solve the problem is that despite the expense and the time invested, neither

can build the most fundamental aspect of any effective team: rapport.

The only true method of solving this problem is to overcome the many cultural barriers that make it difficult for Chinese and foreign employees to create a high level of rapport.

One of the most important, and often misunderstood, examples is the concept of "small talk." It is through this seemingly unimportant banter that employees can discover common interests and goals that will allow them to feel more comfortable in building a strong working relationship. Freescale, the largest producer

**"The only true method of solving this problem is to overcome the many cultural barriers that make it difficult for Chinese and foreign employees to create a high level of rapport."**



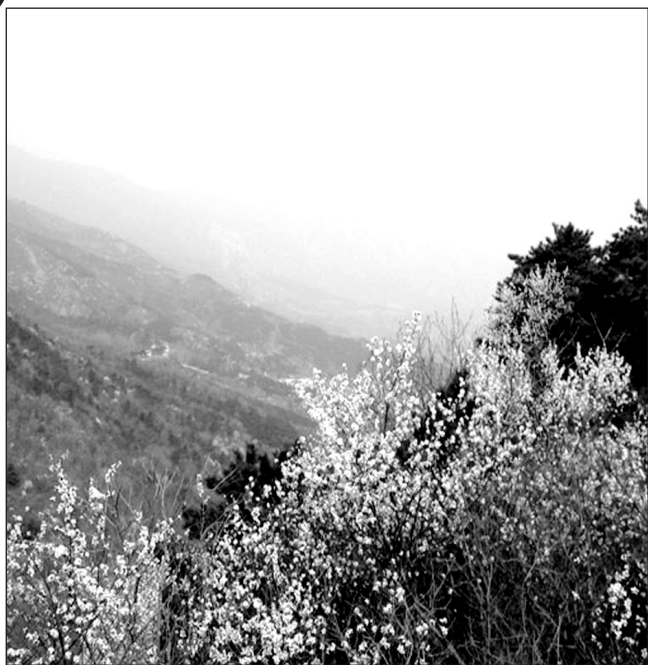
Kevin Tetarenko

of microchips in China, has reaped huge rewards from investing in a series of nationwide cross-cultural awareness seminars, which have allowed its Chinese employees to gain this and other valuable communication skills which cannot be learned in an English class or over a weekend in the countryside.

How can you facilitate small talk in the workplace? Most employees feel that their manager will be angry if they are caught chatting. Prove them wrong. As a manager it is important to lead by example. You should spend a portion of each day making "rounds" of the office, much like a doctor. Spend a few minutes chatting with individuals, inviting others to join the chat and, after a few moments, discreetly leave the conversation. If you are unsure of how to begin a conversation you can chat about recent events or even use props such as this newspaper.

By improving the in-house atmosphere and building rapport within the team your company will be able to achieve any goal.

## Outdoors



### Vulture Rock Park to Miaofeng Temple

Vulture Rock Park is on the eastern side of Mount Miaofeng. There are many hiking trails in the park and trail markers painted by hiking clubs. The park is nice in any kind of weather – there are excellent views on a clear day and on a misty day, you might feel that you were in a traditional Chinese painting.

**Where:** Meet on the ground floor of Starbucks (Jiangtai Lu, Lido Holiday Inn)

**When:** 8:30 am – 5:30 pm, May 18

**Cost:** 250 yuan

**Tel:** 13910025516 (reservations are essential)

### Southern water towns: Suzhou, Wuzhen and Hangzhou

"In heaven there is paradise, on earth there are Suzhou and Hangzhou." The southern water towns Suzhou, Hangzhou and Wuzhen are surrounded by a mystique comparable to Venice in the western world. Though the three are water towns, each has its own special sites.

**When:** take an overnight train to Suzhou on May 15 and fly back on May 18

**Cost:** 4,600 yuan

**Tel:** 6432 9341, 6432 1041 (reservations are essential)

## Aviation

### Singapore Airline's A380 service

Singapore Airlines will fly the Airbus A380 super-jumbo on one of its three daily flights between Singapore and Beijing for one week in early August, to satisfy higher demand for its flights during the lead up to the start of the Olympic Games.

The first A380 flight to China – SQ802 – will depart Singapore at 8:30 am on August 2, arriving in Beijing at 2:40 pm. On the return journey, the SQ805 will depart Beijing at 5:05 pm and touch down in Singapore at 11:20 pm

(all times local).

Thereafter, it will operate daily until August 8, after which the service will revert to the normally-scheduled Boeing 777 aircraft.

### Berlin Airline inaugurates new service from China to Germany

Air Berlin today inaugurated new non-stop service from Beijing and Shanghai to Düsseldorf in the heart of Germany and central Europe. Five flights a week are offered on each route on the Airbus A330 aircraft in two class configurations.

## Nightlife



### Twinkling happiness – Kaqishe and Longkuan concert

**Where:** Star Live, F/3, Tangguo Building, Yonghegongqiao Bei, Chaoyang

**When:** 8:30 pm, May 17

**Admission:** 60 yuan (door), 50 yuan (advance)

**Tel:** 6425 5677

### Legend to magic

**Where:** Angel Club, 6 Gongti Xi Lu, Chaoyang

**When:** 8 pm – 2 am, May 20

**Tel:** 6552 8888

(By Li Jing)

If you have any info for this page, please send it to lixiaojing@ynet.com



## Chinglish story

This column focuses on Chinglish mistakes in our daily life. If you have any experiences to share, send them to Gan Tian at gantian@ynet.com.

# Dollars to doughnuts

By Charles Zhu

On one of those Sunday evenings whilst we whiled away our time at Widener library, Peter offered to treat us to one of the bars at Cambridge. When we arrived at Shay's, it was already crowded with students who had come to seek a good time and music. Goodman trumpeter Ziggy Elman was performing "We Three and the Angels Sing," and laughter and chatter filled the room.

When we settled at one of the tables, Peter told me,

"I have lots of dough tonight so you may have whatever you want."

I was greatly amused and wondered why you would have dough at such a bar and at such a time. I didn't think this upscale bar would offer such a thing. If you wished to

have doughnuts, you should go to the Doughnut King just blocks away.

He asked me to order. I requested the usual Chinon, which was at a value-hunter's price.

"Why don't you have a Bordeaux or a Burgundy?" he asked.

I said, "Chinon lies south of the Loire Valley. We should look beyond Bordeaux and Burgundy for better-priced red wines. It is cheaper than Burgundy and tastes just as good if produced in a good year."

"It takes on a vegetative, bell pepper quality," he said.

"If they are produced in a great year, the Chinon wines offer very savory berry flavors with herbal and mineral tones. They are very delicious with spicy raspberry and cherry flavors. Let's try it," I said.

I had been waiting all this time to see if Peter would order his dough. But it did not happen.

When we returned to the dormitory, I asked him, "Why didn't you have your dough?"

He burst into laughter.

"What did I say to inspire such laughter?" I queried in bewilderment.

"When I said I have dough, it meant I have money."

I at last came to understand this colloquial expression. When he said that he had dough, it did not mean that he wished to have a doughnut, but that he had a pocketful of money. I reflected back on my choice of cheap wine with regret, now knowing that my friend had lots of dough in his pocket all the while.

This column aims to identify Chinglish in public areas. If you see any Chinglish signs, please take a picture and send it to gantian@ynet.com together with your name and address.



## Insert to gain power

By Derrick Sobodash

You all know the story by now. Translator is confident about his English; translator makes a good translation; translator decides it is not snappy enough and butchers it by adding in more oral-style words.

Such is the story of this little plastic box, which can be seen in almost every four-star hotel in China. Its English message reads, "Insert to gain power."

While this translation is perfectly understandable – electricity is commonly referred to as power – the wording still strikes the reader as a little strange. Insert to gain power? What kind of power? Powers beyond the reader's wildest dreams! The message makes it sound like sticking something into the box will grant the inserter the powers to teleport, make perfect stock predictions, spit lighting bolts and kill their enemies by thinking about it.

As cool as all that would be, this is still just talking about electricity.

The absolutely simplest fix would be to replace the ambiguous "power" with the most specific "electricity." It would be best to shy away from "energy," as that word also has multiple meanings. Being able to draw life force from a wall by inserting a card would practically make these things a magnet for demons and other neerdowells.

The translator could also substitute "start" for "gain," which would also cut away most of the ambiguity regardless of which power word he chooses to tack onto the end.

upgrades." The only time the preposition "of" can be dropped is when "couple" refers to living creatures joined in marriage, for example, "The newlywed couple was ecstatic."

### 3. It exits my friend's mouth.

When you exit something, you must exit from it. Modern day language-users tend to use "exit" as a verb as seen in the example sentence. "Exit" used to be exclusively used as a noun but those days are gone. It is more proper to write the sentence this way, "It exits from my friend's mouth." Next week we will tell you exactly what exited from my friend's mouth.

## Native Speaker: Joe Edwards

### 1. The invitation exhibition of contemporary artists is on now.

In this sentence the word "invitation" is being forced to act as an adjective describing the word "exhibition" but it cannot do it because the word is in noun form and not adjective form which is needed here. Don't force the word to be something it is not. That would be a definite case of grammatical abuse. Shame on you! Add an "al" to the word "invitation" and al, I'm sorry, all is well. We're not done yet. You cannot say an exhibition "of" contemporary artists. That gives the impression that the artists themselves are on display and not their work. I don't think any of them could stand that motionless for the length of an exhibition. You must say "by contemporary artists." The corrected sentence now reads, "The invitational exhibition by contemporary artists is on now."

### 2. A couple new upgrades.

When you are talking quantity, you cannot say couple without adding everybody's favorite little preposition, "of." The phrase, "a couple of" is written in grammatical stone and should not be messed with. The phrase should read, "A couple of new

### Blacklist

Beijing Today has come up with Blacklist, a new column of words or phrases commonly misused by Chinese speakers. If you're planning to be an English teacher, reporter or employee of a multinational company, then this page is your new best friend. Watch it for each week.

## Local professor: Zhu Shida

### 1. The invitation exhibition of contemporary artists is on now.

For idiomatic English, it should be "the invitational exhibition" just as in "the invitational tournament." Also, it is not an exhibition of contemporary artists, rather, it is an exhibition by contemporary artists. You can only say "an exhibition of contemporary art." Can you see the nuances of idiomatic difference here?

### 2. A couple new upgrades.

A couple means two of the species or kind, for instance, a couple of men. It sometimes also means a few or several, for example, a couple of things to do. "A couple of" is a set phrase. So, you have to say: "A couple of new upgrades."

### 3. It exits my friend's mouth.

Exit used to be used exclusively as a noun. In modern English, people, especially Americans, tend to use it as a verb. In this case, exit is used as a verb. However, as it means departure, it must be: "It exits from my friend's mouth" just as it comes from my friend's mouth.

CFP Photo





(2006)

## Scene 1

**Lightning McQueen:** Doc, hold it! Seriously, your driving is incredible!

**Doc Hudson:** Wonderful. Now go away.

**Lightning McQueen:** Hey, I mean it. You've still got it! <sup>(2)</sup>

**Doc Hudson:** I'm asking you to leave.

**Lightning McQueen:** Come on. I'm a race car, you're ... a much older race car, but under the hood, you and I are the same.

**Doc Hudson:** We are not the same! Understand?! Now, get out!

**Lightning McQueen:** How could a car like you quit at the top of your game?

**Doc Hudson:** (shocked) You think I quit?

**Lightning McQueen:** Right ... your big wreck in '54 ...

**Doc Hudson:** They quit on me. When I finally got put together <sup>(3)</sup>, I went back expecting a big welcome. Know what they said? "You're history," and moved on to the next rookie<sup>(4)</sup> standing in line. There was a lot left in me. I just never got a chance to show them. I keep that to remind me never to go back. I just never expected that the world would ... would find me here.

**Lightning McQueen:** Hey Doc, I'm not them.

**Doc Hudson:** Really?

**Lightning McQueen:** No, I'm not.

**Doc Hudson:** When was the last time you cared about anything except yourself, Hot Rod <sup>(5)</sup>? You name me one time, and I will take it all back. Uh-huh. I didn't think so. These are good folk around here, who cares about one another. I don't want them depending on someone they can't count on.

**Lightning McQueen:** Oh, like you? You've been here for how long, and your friends don't even know who you are? Who's caring about only himself?!

**Doc Hudson:** Just finish that road and get out of here!

## Movie of the Week

Eye-catching animation, fast-paced comedy, and personified cars describe this masterpiece of 3G animation. Pixar Animation Studios and Oscar-winning director John Lasseter made a fresh new set of characters and a whole new story to add to the Disney treasure box. Furthermore, the accompanying life lesson *Cars* conveys is profound. Life is about the journey, not reaching the destination.

## Synopsis

Lightning McQueen (voiced by Owen Wilson), is a hot-shot rookie race car that is really going places<sup>(6)</sup>. While on his way to the upcoming Piston Cup Championship in California, he is unexpectedly detoured to the sleepy town of Radiator Springs off Route 66. He meets the town's offbeat characters including Doc Hudson (voiced by Paul Newman), Mater (voiced by Larry the Cable Guy), and Sally (voiced by Bonnie Hunt). At first, he exhibits proud and disrespectful behavior and regards the folks in the town as annoying obstacles in his way to success. Inevitably though, he gets to know them and learns that there are more important things than trophies, fame and sponsorship.

## Scene 2

**Lightning McQueen:** (desperately trying to convince the rest of the gang that Doc was the Fabulous Hudson Hornet) Did you know Doc was a famous race car?

(Nobody believes him and starts snickering.)

**Sheriff:** Doc? Our Doc?

**Sarge:** Not Doc Hudson.

**Lightning McQueen:** No, no, no, no it's true! He's a real racing legend. He's the Fabulous Hudson Hornet!

**Flo:** Fabulous? I've never seen Doc drive more than 20 miles an hour. I mean have you ever seen him race?

**Lightning McQueen:** No, but I wish I could. They say that he was amazing. He won three Piston Cups!

**Tow Mater:** (spits out oil that he's drinking) He did what in his cup?

## Scene 3

(The folks of Radiator Springs are sad that Lightning McQueen left without saying goodbye after fixing the main road.)

**Tow Mater:** He must've finished it while we were asleep.

**Doc Hudson:** (coldly) Good riddance. (drives off)

**Flo:** He's ... gone?

**Sarge:** Well, we wouldn't want him to miss that race of his, would we? (Sally drives off sadly.)

**Ramone:** (notices that the Sheriff is crying) Oh dude, are you crying?

**Sheriff:** (quickly changing to a com-

pletely angry face to hide his sadness) No, I'm HAPPY! I don't have to watch him every second of the day anymore! I'm glad he's gone!

**Red:** (speeds away crying, upset at Lightning's apparent departure <sup>(6)</sup>)

**Lightning McQueen:** (appearing out of the blue) What's wrong with Red?

**Tow Mater:** (completely oblivious to <sup>(7)</sup> Lightning's presence, while everyone gasps<sup>(8)</sup>) Oh, he's just sad 'cause you left town and went off to that big race to win your Piston Cup that you always dreamed of an' get that big fancy sponsorship you was talking about. (long pause) Wait a minute! I knew you wouldn't leave without saying goodbye! (Everyone laughs)

## Scene 4

**Michael Schumacher Ferrari:** Hi. Lightning McQueen told me this was the best place in the world to get tires. How about setting me and my friends up with <sup>(9)</sup> three, four sets each?

**Luigi:** Aah! God! There is a real Michael Schumacher Ferrari in my store! A real Ferrari! Punch<sup>(10)</sup> me, Guido! Punch me in the face! This is the most glorious day of my life! (Luigi faints and tips over)

**Michael Schumacher Ferrari:** Wow.

**Michael Schumacher Ferrari:** (in Italian) Spero che il tuo amico si riprenda. Mi dicono che siete fantastici. (I hope that your friend recovers. I was told that you are fantastic)

**Michael Schumacher Ferrari:** (Guido faints and tips over)

## Vocabulary

- 1. Going places:** having a bright future
- 2. You've still got it!:** possessing talents and abilities that never weakened
- 3. Put together:** in this context, rebuilt or reconditioned
- 4. Rookie:** a first-year player, especially in a professional sport.
- 5. Hot rod:** an automobile that has been rebuilt or modified to increase its speed and acceleration
- 6. Apparent departure:** obvious exit
- 7. Oblivious to:** not noticing
- 8. Gasps:** to take in one's breath suddenly and in a way that can be heard, especially because of surprise, shock
- 9. Setting me and my friends up with:** to arrange a meeting between two or more people
- 10. Punch:** strike somebody with your closed fist

(By Li Jing)